

THE JOURNAL

Friday, August 5, 2005

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Sports Starlings teaches fundamentals of life and volleyball [C1]

Arts & Leisure 'Ugly American' graces Berkeley Rep stage [C8]

Alta Punta residents appeal for extra police



EL CERRITO POLICE CHIEF Scott Kirkland talks with the residents of the Alta Punta neighborhood about crime in the area on National Night Out on Tuesday. Kirkland said in his 26 years on the force, El Cerrito's crime rate has consistently ranked second or third highest in the county.

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Residents in the Alta Punta neighborhood have asked city officials for more police officers in response to a perceived increase in crime. The area is located on a hillside on the city's north end near Canyon Trail Park and the Richmond border.

"I think the message the neighborhood wants to convey is that we're fed up with the problems creeping up Macdonald Avenue," said resident Chris Ruetz, who hosted the neighborhood gathering Tuesday as part of the city's annual National Night Out anti-crime events.

In response, City Manager Scott Hanin and Police Chief Scott Kirkland told the approximately 30 residents and other city officials that El Cerrito was attempting to balance a number of priorities, which included the hiring and re-

tention of police officers.

Hanin pointed out, for example, that the city has recently increased its building department code enforcement officer from part-time to full-time status and hired an aquatic director to oversee the city's bustling new swim center.

"If you call the city," said Hanin, "you're going to get a person, a police officer, a fire truck. That's something we're very proud of. It's something I hope people don't take for granted."

Police Chief Scott Kirkland acknowledged that just three police officers and a sergeant are on duty at any one time. He encouraged neighbors to be the "eyes and ears" of the police department and call whenever they see something suspicious.

Residents said the neighborhood was already very well organized with e-mail lists and always reported suspicious activity but

worried about the times when they're not at home.

"To cut to the chase," said Ruetz, "do we need to push for an initiative? Do we need to increase staffing? Do we need to increase the budget?"

Hanin pointed out that fire and police already take up more than half of the city's general fund budget — about \$12 million of \$20 million.

He said the city is looking at increasing its revenues, which may include new developer fees that could go toward hiring new police officers.

"It's not as black and white as maybe this group feels," said Hanin. "Spend \$400,000 to \$500,000 on new officers? It depends, and it's very mixed in terms of where the money goes in El Cerrito."

Kirkland told the crowd that in the 26 years he's been on the force, the city's crime rate has con-

sistently ranked second or third highest in the county. He didn't know whether violent crime had increased recently.

He encouraged people to access police department press releases online at el-cerrito.org. Police and fire dispatch, he said, can be reached at 510-237-3233.

Residents told Kirkland, Hanin and City Councilwoman Letitia Moore that they were concerned about violent crime on the Ohlone Greenway, plus vehicle and property thefts and vandalism in the area.

Two weeks ago, someone dumped a load of old carpets on the street, said resident Barbara Bennett.

"This is not acceptable," said Bennett. "This is not the way we want to live."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Minister learns on job, helping church to grow

■ Attendance doubles in nine months; Douglas Moss is first ordained leader in seven years at Swedenborgian church

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Attending the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Douglas Moss was looking for answers to profound questions: If God is good, how can there be evil in the world?

He found his answers in the Swedenborgian Church.

Moss is the new minister at the Hillside Community Church and Swedenborgian Spiritual Center in El Cerrito. He's leading a church that has not had an ordained minister for seven years.

"I think they're happy to have an ordained person lead them and bring them back to life," said Moss, 52. "The numbers have increased very steadily for the last nine months."

There are just 2,500 Swedenborgians in the United States and 50,000 international members. The El Cerrito Swedenborgian church is one of three in California. The others are in San Francisco and San Diego.

Also known as the Church of New Jerusalem, the Swedenborgian faith is based on the writings of 17th-century Swedish scientist and theologian Emanuel Swedenborg.

Swedenborg wrote that the second coming of Jesus has taken place and is still taking place.

It's not an actual physical appearance

CHURCH INFO

The Hillside Community Church and Swedenborgian Spiritual Center is located at 1422 Navellier St. in El Cerrito. It's available for weddings and other private events. Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. For details, call 510-235-3646.

of God, but rather his spirit. Swedenborg called it the "new church."

Swedenborg also wrote that people are predestined to go to heaven, where their true natures are revealed to them.

"Hell is something we create when we choose to," said Elizabeth Gutfeldt, the widow of former minister Horan Gutfeldt. "You have freedom of choice. You can choose to be egotistical and destructive in this world, and you create a hell."

"I like to describe it as rational Christianity or enlightened Christianity," Moss said. "It encourages you to challenge things in the Bible and try to find a deeper meaning to them. There's a deeper spiritual sense beyond the letter."

Originally located in Berkeley, the Hillside church bought some land on a hill on Navellier Street while homes were being built in the area in the late 1940s.

The church thrived in El Cerrito in the 1950s and 1960s. It counted 100 Sunday School students and perhaps as many parishioners.

But attendance dropped over the years and continued to fall after the death in 1997 of Horan Gutfeldt.

See MOSS, Page A8



THE REV. DOUGLAS MOSS, left, speaks to church members of Hillside Community Church during a Sunday service in El Cerrito last month.

Lieber says plan meant to quiet him

■ The vice mayor asks for a limit on council members' ability to raise items for talk or vote

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

At its Monday meeting, the Albany City Council will consider a request from Vice Mayor Allan Maris to limit council members' ability to raise items for discussion or a vote.

City Councilman Robert Lieber sees the request as an effort to silence him.

"It is a way of quieting dissent," he said.

Any members of the City Council, the city administrator, department heads or the city attorney can bring an item to the council for discussion or a vote.

Maris has suggested changing the procedure so that after an item is suggested by a council member, another member may make a motion to continue the matter at a subsequent meeting, according to a staff report written by City Administrator Beth Pollard.

Lieber believed the change in protocol was aimed at himself. He's brought several controversial issues — primarily centered on the future of the Albany waterfront — to the council for debate.

"I was elected to do the things that people wanted me to voice and not have it edited by anybody," said Lieber, who was elected to the council last November.

The proposal may help council members make informed decisions by providing sufficient information, according to Pollard's report.

Pollard stops short of endorsing Maris' plan but recommends that council members bring agenda items before the council at least 10 days before the meeting. Council members currently have six days before a meeting to suggest agenda items.

See ALBANY, Page A8

Temporary high school campus serves as El Cerrito artist's canvas

By Chris Treadway
STAFF WRITER

The sterile modular buildings that will make up the temporary campus at El Cerrito High School may serve their purpose as classroom space for the next four years, but they offer students little in the way of imagination or inspiration.

But to someone whose livelihood comes from imagination and inspiration, the drab appearance of an interim school campus is an opportunity wait-

LEARN MORE

Mark Canepa's studio is at 10330 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. For information, visit markcanepa.com or call 510-524-6889.

ing to be seized.

"I come from a land of fantasy," said Mark Canepa, a 1977 El Cerrito graduate. "That's all I know. This is all stuff I used to do down in Hollywood."

Canepa is an artist and art de-

signer whose mind is brimming with ideas and ways to make them reality. As volunteer "art director" for the transitional campus, his focus has been on making it an inviting place, rather than something that, as he puts it, "looks like an internment camp."

A proposal to paint the buildings was tabled last month as a low-priority use of school district funds. Canepa thinks it's just as well.

"They originally wanted to paint the portable buildings dif-

ferent colors, and I said 'Why? It's almost like adding insult to injury.'"

Canepa, 46, has done a walk-through of the site with Principal Vince Rhea and met with supportive school parents. Last week, he invited a group of student volunteers to his El Cerrito art studio, where he offered some preliminary concepts and encouraged students to come up with ideas on making the campus their own.

"As long as people are willing,

it'll happen," he said in an interview last week at his San Pablo Avenue studio, located next to the family business, El Cerrito Lighting. "They just have to be willing. It's not that difficult once you get started."

As someone who has worked in Hollywood as an artist and prop and set creator, as well as in Pasadena as a float designer for the Tournament of Roses parade, Canepa should know.

See CÁNENA, Page A8

At the Library

■ The importance of writers speaking cultural truths through their characters. Page A5



Martin Snapp

■ Martin writes about the marathon runner who's winning the race against cancer. Page A3

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NEWS BRIEFS

Kensington

Events ordinance to go before supervisors

An events ordinance that would allow Kensington resident Danny Scher to hold up to three events a year in his backyard amphitheater is tentatively scheduled to go before the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors at 1:15 p.m., Tuesday, at the County Administration Building, 651 Pine Street, Room 107 in Martinez.

The ordinance would apply to all unincorporated areas in Contra Costa County. If approved, it will allow residents — who go through a county permitting process — to hold up to three large events a year, one with up to 300 people and two with up to 200 people. For more information, call the county board clerk at 925-335-1900.

— Alan Lopez

El Cerrito

City seeks applications for commissions

The city is seeking applications for openings on three city commissions: Planning, human relations and arts and culture. Each commission has one opening and meets once a month. For an application, call the city clerk at 510-215-4305 or go online to el-cerrito.org. The deadline for completed applications is Monday at 4 p.m.

— Alan Lopez

City hires assistant planner

El Cerrito has hired Sarah Goralewski as a new assistant planner, bringing the number of city planners to three.

Goralewski earned a master's degree in urban planning from the University of Michigan and worked for a year with a consulting firm that helped counties and school districts develop fees developers paid to do projects.

She started with the city on July 18, joining senior planner Noel Ibalio, who the city also hired in July, and planning manager Jennifer Carman.

"She has good strengths in customer service and helping people, and she is very energetic," said Community Development Director Mitch Oshinsky. "And I think she will be a great addition for helping residents and business people as they come in to improve their properties."

— Alan Lopez

Draft of telecom law to be released

A draft telecommunications law regulating where cell phone antennas can be erected in the city will be available Aug. 26 at City Hall or on the city's Web site, www.el-cerrito.org.

The ordinance is part of an overhaul of the city's zoning code that the City Council may approve this December, following review by the planning commission. The city has released 42 pages of the document and will release more in the coming weeks.

City Hall is located at 10890 San Pablo Ave. For more information, call 510-215-4330.

— Alan Lopez

Democratic clubs organize election talk

Members of the Richmond and El Cerrito democratic clubs are organizing a West County Special Election summit conference to be held from 10 a.m. to noon Sept. 17, at the Easter Hill United Methodist Church in Richmond, 3911 Cutting Blvd.

The conference is intended to inform and provide a forum for West County voters about the issues in the Nov. 8 special election.

The newly formed West County Coalition to Inform Voters is organizing the event. The coalition is composed in part by the Richmond and El Cerrito democratic clubs.

Additional sponsors, so far, include Assemblywoman Loni Hancock, Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia and the Contra Costa County Democratic Central Committee.

— Alan Lopez

County to hold small-business meeting

Small-business owners are invited to meet with Contra Costa County officials and other small-business owners at a "Smart Business" meeting from 5 to 9 p.m. Oct. 19, at the Open House Senior Center, 6500 Stockton Ave.

County officials will discuss what products and services the county will be buying in the coming year, and will give small-business owners the chance to register as a vendor so they can receive notices of upcoming services and products for which the county is inviting bids.

The event will include instructions on how to contract with the county, plus a short program about financial services, marketing and more. The city, the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, the county and the Contra Costa Small-Business Development Center are sponsoring the event. For information or to find out about speaking, call the chamber at 510-233-7040.

— Alan Lopez

Misc.

Project Ready to Learn under way

It may have seemed like summer just started, but Hills and Contra Costa newspapers are already gearing up for the new school year with their sixth annual school supplies donation drive.

Project Ready to Learn runs through Aug. 26. During that time, we will seek donations of backpacks, pencils, papers, calculators and other classroom essentials that can be donated to students who need them the most.

Last year, Hills and Times newspaper readers donated enough supplies to equip more than 2,300 kids, and made monetary donations of more than \$23,000. With the help of the Junior League of the Oakland-East Bay, the supplies were donated to underprivileged children in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Drop-off sites will be at Contra Costa and Hills Newspaper locations. For more information, visit www.contracostatimes.com.

— Peggy Spear

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Monday, July 25

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — Officers stopped a red 1992 Honda Accord on the 900 block of Talbot Street for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 20-year-old Berkeley man, for an outstanding warrant for fighting.

Tuesday, July 26

■ **NISSAN STOLEN** — A resident on the 1000 block of Posen Street reported that during the evening hours someone stole his black 1991 Nissan that was parked in front of his home. There were no witnesses.

■ **DRUG SALE ARREST** — Officers responded to the parking lot of the Target Store on the 1000 block of Eastshore on reports of someone acting suspiciously. Officers arrested a San Leandro man who was found to have outstanding warrants and in possession of marijuana for sale.

Wednesday, July 27

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — During the night someone stole a blue 1994 Honda Accord parked on the 1000 block of Neilson Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **EGG THROWING** — There were two reports of juveniles throwing eggs at vehicles on San Carlos Street between Thousand Oaks and Solano avenues. They were gone when officers arrived.

Thursday, July 28

■ **DUI** — At about 1 a.m. officers stopped a white 2000 Ford Mustang near San Pablo and Fairmont avenues for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 23-year-old

Daly City man, for DUI.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone stole items out of an unlocked green 1997 Plymouth minivan parked on the 1100 block of Ordway Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone prowled the inside of an unlocked gray Toyota parked on the 1000 block of Ordway Street. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

■ **DISTURBANCE** — There were numerous calls of yelling and fighting on the 700 block of Madison Street around 8 p.m. About five hours later officers responded to more calls of a disturbance in the same area. They arrested a 15-year-old boy for battery.

Friday, July 29

■ **BURGLARS ARRESTED** — At about 4 a.m. officers stopped a 1991 Ford near San Pablo and Fairmont avenues. They arrested the occupants, two San Pablo men ages 18 and 19, for burglary, possession of stolen property and conspiracy. The 18-year-old man was additionally charged with drug possession.

■ **VEHICLE BREAK-INS** — During the night someone broke into a beige Toyota Corolla parked on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue. Nothing appeared to have been taken, but the inside was damaged. During the investigation, officers discovered five additional vehicles on the 400 and 500 blocks of Stannage had been broken into. A 1999 Toyota was also broken into on the 400 block of Cornell Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone stole a stereo out of a white 1987 Oldsmobile Delta 88 parked on the 1200 block of Brighton Avenue during the night.

■ **TIRE SLASHED** — During the night someone slashed the tire on a silver 1987 Honda Accord parked on the 1400 block of Posen Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — Officers responded to the Albany Bowl on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue, on reports of someone dancing in the lanes and causing a disturbance. They arrested a 37-year-old El Cerrito man for disorderly conduct.

Saturday, July 30

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone broke into a white 1992 Honda Civic parked on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ **TIPS STOLEN** — At about 1 p.m. a caller from a restaurant near Solano and Kains avenues reported that a man stole money from the tip jar. He was last seen crossing San Pablo Avenue toward Adams Street. He was gone when officers arrived.

■ **PETTY THEFT** — Officers responded to the Target Store on the 1000 block of Eastshore on reports that security had a 47-year-old Berkeley woman in custody for stealing. Officers processed her arrest.

Sunday, July 31

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone smashed the window of a blue 1989 Honda parked in an open garage on the 1000 block of Evelyn Avenue and stole the stereo. There were no witnesses.

■ **ROBBERY** — An Albany man reported that at 5:15 p.m., while he was near Dartmouth and Masonic avenues, he was robbed by two male adults who threatened him with a fire iron and took his wallet. The second

man was the driver of a 1987 Ford. They were gone when officers arrived.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone smashed the window of a tan 1999 Mazda Protege parked in an open garage on the 1100 block of Washington Avenue and stole a stereo. There were no witnesses.

Monday, August 1

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — Officers stopped a blue and silver Chevrolet Blazer on the 1100 block of Eastshore for a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, a 34-year-old Oakland man, for an outstanding Francisco warrant for driving on a suspended license.

■ **BUSINESS BREAK-IN** — On weekend, someone smashed the front door glass of a business on the 700 block of San Pablo Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — A resident on the 1200 block of Portland Avenue reported the house had been ransacked and items missing. There were no witnesses.

Weekly Summary

During the week of July 25, officers towed two vehicles, responded to false alarms, attended to eight lost animals, assisted others who were locked out of their cars, responded to one report of a dog, in the domestic arena, responded to 16 civil disturbances and 165 civil assists. Officers seized 74 vehicles or persons, issued citations and 51 warnings. Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to medical emergencies.

— Kristina

EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

Monday, July 25

■ **ACCORD STOLEN** — Sometime between 10 p.m. on July 25 and 10:30 a.m. the next day, a 1990 Honda Accord was taken from the 5800 block of Central Avenue.

■ **PATHFINDER STOLEN** — Between 9:15 p.m. and 9:45 p.m., a silver 1988 Nissan Pathfinder was taken from the 11400 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **TOYOTA STOLEN** — Between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., a maroon 1992 Toyota was taken from the 2500 block of Harris Avenue.

Tuesday, July 26

■ **TERCEL STOLEN** — Sometime between 5 p.m. on July 26 and 9:45 a.m. the next day, a 1987 Toyota Tercel station wagon was taken from the 2400 block of Mira Vista Drive.

Wednesday, July 27

■ **DRUG ARREST** — At 12:40 p.m., police arrested the passenger of a vehicle stopped at Arlington Boulevard and Terrace Drive. The passenger had a warrant for his arrest from Solano County. He also resisted arrest and possessed a crack pipe, according to police records. Police arrested the driver on suspicion of possessing methamphetamine.

■ **SHOPLIFTING ARREST** — At 7:45 p.m., store security at Barnes and Noble arrested a man on suspicion of shoplifting \$303 worth of CDs. The man also gave police a false identity, according to police records.

■ **STOLEN PROPERTY** — Sometime between 7 a.m. and 6:45 p.m., someone took property from a vehicle on the 3200 block of Belmont Avenue.

■ **EMPLOYEE ARRESTED** — At noon, store security at Marshalls arrested an employee on suspicion of stealing a paycheck belonging to another employee, and then cashing it.

■ **CAMRY STOLEN** — Sometime between 4:30 p.m. on July 27 and 10 a.m. the next day, a blue 1988 Toyota Camry was taken from the 11700 block of San Pablo Avenue.

Thursday, July 28

■ **SHOPLIFTING ARREST** — At 1 p.m., Target store security arrested a man on suspicion of shoplifting \$100 worth of merchandise. The man had numerous felony theft convictions, according to police records.

■ **BURGLARY** — Sometime between 5:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m., some \$4,400 worth of property was taken from a home on the 800 block of Liberty Street. The property included two laptop computers and a video game system. Whoever burglarized the

home pried open an unlocked window.

■ **COUNTERFEIT CHECK** — At 8:30 p.m., Target store security arrested a man on suspicion of attempting to pass a counterfeit check.

■ **CIVIC STOLEN** — A 1994 black Honda Civic was taken from the 1300 block of Everett Street.

Friday, July 29

■ **INTEGRA STOLEN** — Sometime between 9 a.m. and noon, a 1992 blue Acura Integra was taken from the 6400 block of Knott Avenue.

■ **ATTEMPTED ROBBERY** — Police arrested two juveniles on suspicion of attempting to take a woman's purse at Mooser Lane and Pomona Avenue. Police could not locate two other suspects involved in the robbery.

■ **ACURA STOLEN** — A gold Acura Legend was taken shortly after 11 a.m. from El Cerrito Plaza. The owner had left the vehicle unlocked with the engine running, according to police records.

■ **DRUG ARREST** — Police arrested a man riding a bicycle on the 10400 block of San Pablo Avenue on suspicion of possessing drug paraphernalia and for being under the influence of methamphetamine.

■ **ROBBERY** — At 3:45 p.m., a woman was robbed of her purse at

Richmond and Stockton Avenue. The robber fled in a vehicle driven by another man.

Saturday, July 30

■ **SHOPLIFTING ARREST** — At 8 p.m., police arrested two Richmond women on suspicion of shoplifting \$196 worth of merchandise from Target.

Sunday, July 31

■ **BURGLARY ARRESTS** — At 11 a.m., a resident interrupted burglars stealing a car stereo located on the 3300 block of Belmont Avenue. Police later arrested him and two juveniles on suspicion of committing the burglary as well as others in the area.

■ **DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE** — At 1:50 p.m., police arrested a woman on suspicion of driving the influence after she crashed her house at Contra Costa Drive and Drive.

Monday, August 1

■ **ALCOHOL ARREST** — At 11 p.m., police arrested a Richmond man on suspicion of being under the influence at Carlson Boulevard and Diego Street.

CORRECTION

A photo caption in the July 22 Journal contained an error. Vitale did not build the house in the photo. He bought and lived in it. Also, the story on Vitale misspelled Oroville.

THE JOURNAL

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Shareef Dajani, general manager • Craig Lazzarotti, Hills editor

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EDITORIAL

TO REPORT AN ERROR: Call the newsroom at 510-262-2724. The Journal strives for accuracy, but should an error occur, a correction will be published in the next edition.

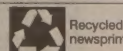
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Marathon runner wins hearts of moved friends

LIA BERNSTEIN of Berkeley didn't finish first in last Sunday's San Francisco Marathon, but she was a big winner anyway.

She beat her previous best time by 16 seconds. More important, she raised more than \$1,700 for brain cancer research as captain of the National Brain Tumor Foundation Team.

Most important of all is the fact she's still here. She's been battling an inoperable malignant brain tumor since 1997. When she was diagnosed, her doctor told her she had only eight months to live. He also told her to give up physical activity to conserve her strength.

"Instead, I listened to myself, believed in myself, and told him he was wrong," she said.

That's when she started running marathons.

"I needed to hang on to anything that would build my mental strength for the road ahead," she said. "Sure, there are days when my energy wavers dramatically because of exhaustion, pain, or side effects from the chemo."

"But the pure joy I find in physical exercise keeps me going."

Those so-called "side effects" include seizures, nausea, hair loss, heart palpitations and vomiting. Sometimes the pain is so great, every muscle in her body goes into spasm, and all she can do is wait it out.

At other times, the nerve endings on her skin become so sensitive, even wearing a T-shirt is sheer agony.

The cancer has affected every part of her life. Getting sick is terribly expensive, even if it has insurance. And she was forced to give up a promising career as a special ed teacher because she couldn't make plans longer than six months ahead.

It's also made her shy about exploring romantic relationships. "I feel like 'Who would want to take this on?'" she said.

In spite of all this, I have never met anyone with less self-pity.

"Compared to somebody who's bed-bound, tied to an IV the time, what do I have to complain about?" she said. "There are times when I feel like I've got a bad deal; but



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

then again, I've been around a lot longer than I was told I was going to be."

It's at times like this when you find out who your friends are. Some people have dropped away.

"I haven't been able to show up at their parties because I was sick, so they finally stopped inviting me," she said. "I know it's not personal, but you still want to be invited, even if you can't make it."

On the other hand, some people have turned out to be true friends, including her co-workers at TitleNine, a women's sports apparel company in Emeryville.

"They've been great. Instead of my having to call in sick, they allow me to come in whenever I want, even if it's only for an hour or two. They say I'm good for morale. Some have offered to take me back and forth to my chemo treatments. Others come by and bring me groceries."

Now that the marathon is over, she'll increase her chemotherapy because the doctors have discovered a couple of spots on her left lung. But she'll keep running.

"I appreciate each breath, every blister, each drop of sweat, every smile."

"If one sees life as a foot race and the finish line as the end, what's the point of rushing to the finish line? Think about the amazing fact that I'm still alive and running: How cool is that?"

If you'd like to join Lia's team and contribute to brain tumor research in her name, send a check to the National Brain Tumor Foundation, 22 Battery St., suite 612, San Francisco, CA 94111-5520; log on to www.braintumor.org; or call 800-934-2873.

Then slow down and smell the flowers. As Lia says, "Why should it take a dramatic disease to make us appreciate life?"

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2787 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

PET OF THE WEEK

BERKELEY — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

Dogs: 10-month-old female Aussie mix blue merle; 2-year-old male Chihuahua mix tan; 10-month-old male pit bull/Lab mix tan; 6-month-old male shepherd mix white & brown; 10-month-old male terrier mix gray; 3-year-old female border collie/dachshund mix black and tan; 5-year-old male collie/shepherd mix fawn; 2-year-old female Chihuahua mix black and tan.

Cats: 2-year-old male DSH black; 1-year-old female DSH gray; 1-year-old male DMH gray and white; 5-year-old female DSH tortoiseshell; 1-year-old female DMH white; 4-year-old female DLH tortoiseshell; 3-year-old female DSH gray tabby; 8-year-old female DSH tortoiseshell; 8-year-old female DLH/Maine Coon tuxedo; 3-year-old DLH/Maine Coon black tabby; kittens of various ages, sizes and colors.

(DLH: Domestic long hair; DMH: domestic medium hair; DSH: domestic short hair).

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$100; rabbits \$40 — including spaying/neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-7735.



BERKELEY-EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

PETAL is a 4-year-old female dilute tortoiseshell, and may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. Petal loves tummy rubs and to be tickled under her chin, and enjoys playing with catnip toys. She was surrendered to the shelter because she didn't get along with her feline sibling in the house. If you are interested in meeting Petal or other cats and dogs available for adoption, visit or call the Berkeley East Bay Humane Society.



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Neighbors

FACES & PLACES

Solano Stroll just around the corner

The Solano Avenue Association is accepting applications for booths and parade entries in this year's Solano Stroll street fair in Berkeley and Albany. The parade will be held at 11 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11. The association is looking for entries that fit this year's theme: "Don't Rain on My Parade." Mail-in entries for the parade are due Aug. 15; walk-in entries are due 10 a.m. on Sept. 11. For more information, call 510-527-5358 or visit solanostroll.org.

— Alan Lopez

Casey McMurray, formerly of El Cerrito and a 1988 graduate of El Cerrito High School, has been named assistant principal at Milpitas High School, where he taught Spanish for 10 years and was head of the Spanish Department. He is a graduate of Brigham Young University, and received his master's degree and administrative credential from San Jose State University.

— Chris Treadway

The El Cerrito Rotary Club has named resident Tracy Giles "Rotarian of the Year." Giles is a member of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and was a chairperson for the "Taste of El Cerrito" in May. The Rotary honored Giles in late June. She will act as community service director for the Rotary in the upcoming year.

— Alan Lopez



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

A GROUP EFFORT by Scott Brenner, 10, left, his father Jerry Brenner, Dana McMullen, Judy Hardin and Dana's daughter Megan Delino, 10, went into making hay boms for rabbits at Rabbit Ears in Kensington on Sunday. The educational fair offered information about the care of rabbits.

Jessica Cho of Albany was named to the dean's list for the spring 2005 semester at Syracuse University's College of Visual and Performing Arts.

— Craig Lazzarotti

Members of the El Cerrito Green Party will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday at the Little Hong Restaurant, 10443 San Pablo Ave. Meetings usually end by 8:30 p.m. For more information, call 510-525-4528.

— Alan Lopez

El Cerrito's recreation department is inviting children ages 7 to 14 to Camp Ravencloft, a sleep-away camp along the El River in southern Humboldt County. The camp will be held

Aug. 13 through Aug. 19.

The camp will include hiking, environmental studies, swimming, canoeing, nature study, field games, basketball, volleyball, archery, horseshoes, a ropes course, campfire, stargazing and more.

There will also be arts and crafts and indoor activities such as pool, foosball, pingpong and board games.

The cost is \$300 for El Cerrito residents and \$375 for nonresidents. For information and registration forms, stop at the community center, 7007 Moeser Lane, go online at elcerrito.org/recreation or call 510-559-7005.

— Alan Lopez

The El Cerrito recreation de-

partment will hold its ninth annual dynamo golf scramble fundraiser Aug. 22 at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd.

The cost per player is \$135. It includes coffee and pastries, a dynamo T-shirt and goodie bag, and lunch after the tournament. All levels of play are welcome. The shotgun format is open to any caliber golfer. Everyone hits, and the best ball is played.

The event raises money for scholarships for the city's recreation and child care programs. Last year's tournament raised more than \$10,000. Register by Aug. 19 at the recreation department, 7007 Moeser Lane, or call 510-559-7000.

— Alan Lopez

For mental fitness, go online or attend a class

Q. IS THERE any mental fitness value in television? I'm not talking about mindless soap operas or brainless reality shows, but how about game shows or even crime-solving programs? Those make me think, but are they improving the brain's fitness or turning it into jelly?

A. I must admit that I am not much of a TV fan. We watch a daily newscast and perhaps one murder or accident mystery, and that's all. There are certainly programs of interest and entertainment on television.

You can look at new places, watch interesting stories, and there are many, many other options. You can attend auctions, watch sports events — the possibilities are endless, but the questions that you asked involved brain fitness, not just entertainment.

Finding mental exercise on TV proves to be far more difficult, if not totally impossible. You mentioned game shows.



CONNIE LYNCH
Don't Lose Your Mind

Primarily they require the memory of obscure facts — at least the ones with which I am familiar. Using your memory is better than nothing, but far less effective than using your brain to solve actual problems.

As you may have seen in an earlier column, I believe that even using a computer for mental fitness is less effective than social interaction, such as a class, but TV is far worse. A computer actually can provide a large variety of problems for you to solve, but a TV has a set program schedule, and although you can change channels, your choice for mental stimulation is extremely limited. I questioned the members of

my Mind Works classes. Almost all of them use computers routinely, but they all thought the interaction in classes is far more effective for promoting mental fitness. We work at length on the four mental fitness components: awareness, communication, curiosity and willingness to accept mental challenges.

The last two — curiosity and willingness to accept mental challenges — are simply the terms that I have used to define mental fitness components, and most Mind Works class members are very curious and will attack any problem I assign them. Exercises in awareness and communication are readily available, and we use them often during class time.

Are you prevented in some way from leaving your home? If so, I strongly recommend using a computer instead of watching television. A computer can respond to you. A television has no way to answer a direct question no matter how many channels you

receive.

If you are able to leave your home, I suggest you find a form of mental stimulation that involves other people and will promote problem solving or learning something totally new, such as a language or other new subject. Check with your local senior center or other community center to see what is available and what interests you.

So my advice to you has to be, limit your TV and get into your computer if necessary, or better yet, start attending classes that address your interests. Your mental fitness will improve in no time.

E-mail inquiries for Kensington resident Connie Lynch to conniemw@aol.com or call 510-466-5833. Lynch, Ph.D., is the founder of Mind Works, a mental fitness program designed for older adults, and is the author of "Don't Lose Your Mind, Four Components of Superior Mental Fitness" (Bridge Learning Systems, 2000).

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
— Thomas Jefferson

— Thomas Jefferson

GUEST COMMENTARY
Shoreline development
can serve both camps

By Howard McNenny

WE ARE HEARING a lot of inflated rhetoric these days about the future of the Albany waterfront, with imagined battle lines between so-called "pro-development" people and "park advocates." Amidst all the shouting, I would like to remind everyone of a simple fact: We are all park advocates.

We all want the Bay Trail completed along the Albany Shoreline. Everyone will insist that there be large areas for games, picnics, children's play areas, and places just to sit and gaze at the incredible view. And who would not advocate restoration of the sand dunes with boardwalks providing protected access to a cleaned-up beach, or reconstruction of the old fishing pier? Or how about an enlargement of the existing marsh, and perhaps an interpretive center with developed trails along the bird sanctuary and marsh area? We all would like these things.

So what actually does separate the two sides in this debate? It is not that some people favor development and some do not. The fact is that all sides favor a fairly significant amount of development. The difference to me is this: Some see development as a necessary evil — something probably unattractive to be hidden to the extent possible, and removed as far from our shoreline as the limits of the site permit. Others, myself included, see value in a mix of uses that can, if properly planned, add immensely to the pleasure of being near the water.

We live in an age when cities across the country and around the world are re-discovering their waterfronts. Why can't Albany? We now have that chance. With the arrival of Caruso Affiliates as the holder

of exclusive development rights to the Golden Gates Fields property, we now have the potential of a development partner that can help us transform our waterfront and do so in a first-class manner.

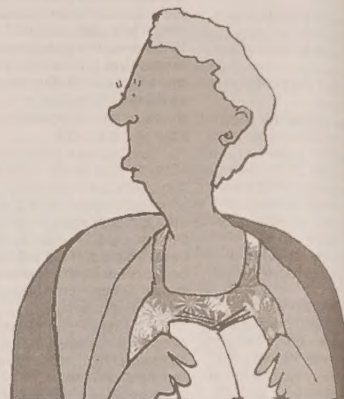
Our challenge is now to raise the bar as high as we can, and demand nothing less than world-class planning and architecture to match the magnificence of the site. We get only one chance to do this right, and we cannot afford to fail.

We must make sure we have wonderful places for relaxation, picnicking, biking, sports and appreciation of the natural beauty of the setting. But let us also provide for those who might prefer instead to enjoy a pleasurable meal with a view of the bay, or those who might like to shop or observe the passing scene in a vibrant plaza filled with fountains, public art and a meaningful connection with the water — a place to socialize, meet friends and bring visitors.

We may decide that a hotel would be desirable and could provide a venue for many civic events that cannot now be held in our city. All this will not be a "necessary evil" that we will want to hide in the far recess of the track property, but rather a wonderful place on our shoreline.

And here is the beautiful part: the restaurants and shops and hotels are what will pay for the parks and open space development. Yes, if we all work together as a community, we may yet see that vast sea of asphalt ripped up, and in its place, both the parks we all want, and the development (yes, that is the word) to pay for it.

Howard McNenny is chairman of the Albany Waterfront Coalition.

Here's one. It even has doors
and windows for only \$673K.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rights of non-drivers
often violated

One commentator on the recent Supreme Court eminent-domain decision expressed concern about the court " ... searching through obscure European legal decisions in hopes of finding a new constitutional right to recognize ..."

A "new constitutional right?" For half a century, we've been building new "public roads" posted with signs reading: "Pedestrians, bicycles and non-motorized vehicles prohibited."

That's certainly a valid public safety concern, but the same words also accurately describe the kind of new urban and suburban development we've been getting ever since we started building freeways.

Post-World War II flight from the cities is a primary cause of the urban blight that triggered early renewal programs. Then we did not seek out a "new constitutional right" which could have prevented the kind of urban renewal that warranted scrutiny by the highest court.

Civil rights protests against sprawl development in its early stages would have had a hollow ring when compared with the vicious racial discrimination prevailing then.

But we've known all along that driving a motor vehicle on a public road is a privilege, not a right. Local and county governments violate the rights of citizens who cannot, should not, or choose not to drive, when they approve new urban and suburban development that is accessible and functional only for those who drive cars.

Instead of urban limit lines and transit village subsidies, why can't we simply prohibit any new development that is not at least as accessible and functional for non-motorists as it is for those who drive?

Art Weber
El Cerrito

It's not over yet

We are not paying attention to the issues surrounding Karl Rove and the outing of Valerie Plame, a CIA operative.

Between the Discovery Space Shuttle and the John Roberts nomination to the Supreme Court, we have stopped paying attention. As I recall, the issues have not been resolved.

Rove did out the CIA operative. And there seems to be a cover-up at the highest levels of the Bush administration on the larger issue of whether we used faulty intelligence to justify going to war in Iraq.

We cannot continue to waste human lives and destroy Iraq in service of these lies. It is essential that the press continue to pursue this story and to get to the bottom of things.

Our country stands for the right to a free press, and we all need to start acting like we really believe this.

Laura Brainin-Rodriguez
El Cerrito

Rational voice

There are unfortunate aspects to the impending appointment of Judge Roberts to the Supreme Court.

By happenstance, conservative presidents already have been able to appoint a majority of judges (and not only in the Supreme Court). This appointment only adds to this imbalance.

It will be interpreted as a proper response to the absurd presumption that the judiciary consists of a clique of left-

wing activists addicted to legislating from the bench, and those who do not share his strong faith will be obliged to live with the suspicion that catechism will tilt the marginal case.

Nevertheless, his appointment should be confirmed.

A strong court requires, above all, the intelligence to find sense in the intricacies of law and restraint that confines argument to the legal case. There is evidence Roberts possesses both.

Contrast this with Justice Scalia, abundant in intelligence but devoid of restraint, and Clarence Thomas, who surely has no place on this particular bench.

Judge Roberts can only be viewed as a welcome return to rationality in the court's conservative voice. The country needs that rational voice, which will be the voice of the loyal opposition once reason prevails.

Michael Bloxham
Kensington

Abusive decision

Recently, the Supreme Court concluded that local city governments have the authority to seize private land and then turn that property over to private developers for economic development.

Locally, Albany Councilman Allan Maris is submitting a proposal for a rule change which will make it significantly more difficult for the average citizen to get an item on the agenda. In short, he wants at least two council members to approve an issue first.

What do these two events have in common? They both represent an erosion of citizens' basic rights and pursuit of happiness.

Imagine if Safeway decides it needs the properties on Curtis and Neilson streets to expand its business. The city then agrees to allow this to happen, since this would increase the tax base.

The property owners then wish to argue against this at a City Council meeting but can only get one council member to agree to put it on the agenda.

Well, Joe Citizen, you just lost your house, so shut up!

Steve Pinto
Albany

Attend council meeting

The Albany City Council operates according to democratic principles that encourage information to be presented in an open public meeting. The council should have no interest in suppressing the rights of its members to present evidence that

supports their positions on issues.

Sadly, it appears that some members may want to do just that.

At our upcoming meeting on Monday rule changes to restrict an individual council member's right to bring issues freely before the public will be considered. These rule changes could involve allowing other council members and staff to review, evaluate, revise or decide the "appropriateness" of any other agenda item, to the outright suppression of a dissenting voice, by requiring a second (another member's OK) to put anything on the agenda.

The voters of Albany deserve a democratic council where their elected representatives can freely bring forth the issues that the citizens elected them to voice.

I urge all Albany citizens to come to our Monday meeting to protect their rights to be fully represented by the people they elect.

Good democracy is not judged by how we treat the majority but how we treat the minority. The vote that each individual council member casts on this issue should not be forgotten by the citizens of Albany.

Councilman Robert Lieber
Albany

Protect wilderness

California is fortunate to have leaders such as Sen. Barbara Boxer and Rep. Mike Thompson, the sponsors of the Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Wilderness Act, who are willing to work to protect the public interest in these wild places, including such incomparably beautiful landscapes as the Kings Range/Lost Coast.

Boxer and Thompson have worked to address concerns of local residents and bring together broad support for this bill including Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and 20 of 24 county supervisors from the affected counties, and to secure the bill's passage by the Senate.

It's encouraging that the House Resources Committee has granted a hearing on this important legislation. Let's hope that they will follow through and vote to defend the public's interest in these national treasures.

John Hagopian
Berkeley

Roberts nomination

This is in response to some of the letters written regarding the nomination of John Roberts to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Why so much concern about Judge Roberts' thoughts and ideas? Some of the writers are concerned about Roberts being too radical toward the right? What were these same writers when John Bader Ginsburg was nominated?

Ginsburg was, without a doubt, the most radically left wing judge on the liberal bench. But there was no outcry from these folks? Could it be they are actually wanting only "far left" judges?

I am aware that anyone who questions the liberal left is clearly out of place in this area of the Peoples Republic of California, but the fact remains that many of us still do know the difference between liberal socialism and normal living.

This country needs many more judges such as Roberts and far fewer such as Ginsburg if we wish to remain free from total government control.

Murray "Red" Martin
San Pablo

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

House of Representatives

Barbara Lee: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley, most of Oakland) 414 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; 202-225-2661. Fax: 202-225-9817; 1301 Clay St., Ste. 1000N, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-763-0370. Fax: 510-763-6538. E-mail: barbara.lee@mail.house.gov.

Ellen Tauscher: (D-10th District: El Cerrito, Kensington) 2121 N. California Blvd., Suite 555, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 925-932-8899 or 1034 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-1880. E-mail through www.house.gov/tauscher

State Senate

Don Perata: (D-9th District: Albany, Berkeley) State Capitol, Room 4061, Sacramento, CA 95814; 916-445-6577. Fax: 916-327-1997; 1515 Clay St., No. 2202, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-286-1333. Fax: 510-286-3885. E-mail: senator.perata@sen.ca.gov.

Tom Torlakson: (D-7th District: El Cerrito, Kensington) 2801 Concord Blvd., Concord CA 94519; 800-859-9900 or State Capitol, Room 2068, Sacramento CA 95814; 916-445-6083, e-mail: senator.torlakson@sen.ca.gov

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249; 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530; 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530; 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-

costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612; 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

EBMUD

David Richardson: Ward No. 4 (Albany, Berkeley, and Emeryville; part of Oakland; El Cerrito and Kensington. E-mail: Oakport@igc.org

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Siri: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Stegs Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegsd.dst.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci-elcerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

Have something on your mind?
Send a letter to the
El Cerrito Journal

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Find the Journal online at
ElCerritoJournal.com

Cultural tales best told from insider's view

Quote of the week

"We want the chance to tell our own stories, to tell them honestly and openly. We don't want publishers to say, 'Well, we already published a book about that,' and then find it was a book that did not speak the truth about us but rather told someone on the outside's idea of who we are."

— Jacqueline Woodson, "Who Can Tell My Story?" from "The Horn Book Magazine"

IN THE PAST WEEK I have read 11 articles on the topic of multiculturalism and children's books. The title of Woodson's piece — "Who Can Tell My Story?" — sums up the basic question: Who has the right to write about a particular culture?

Woodson makes one point that really stood out for me. She says that always, somewhere in the Q&A session after an event, she is asked what she calls "The Question": "How do you feel about people writing outside of their own experiences? How do you feel about white people writing about people of color?"



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

Her initial response to this query — especially since her white friends were never asked — was anger. But over time she came to appreciate the opportunity to speak her mind and to have a conversation about that very question. Her conclusion is that stories should be written from firsthand experience of some kind. She gives an example, using a story she wrote about a white Jewish girl and a young black one. She tells us she isn't Jewish, but she is female; she isn't male, but she is black. Her point is that she can find a common experience with these characters and then bring her own vision to the story.

"A Mess of Stories," by Marc Aronson ("Horn Book Magazine"), gives another view. Aronson, who has written em-

phatically about the dangers of giving book awards based on the ethnicity or cultural background of the author or illustrator, continues his heartfelt argument against the idea of multiculturalism and children's books. He envisions a world where everyone can tell a story and all of us will "recognize that our world is not made up of cultures forged separately one by one and guarded by skin color, religion, gender, class, or ethnicity."

I like his fervor and I appreciate his dream, but since we are not there yet — and we have a long way to go — I think having a high standard for every writer will not be enough to bring all excellent writers and illustrators into the public eye.

In an article called "Multiculturalism is not Halloween" ("Horn Book"), Thelma Seto clearly expresses yet another view: "I feel very strongly that it is morally wrong for Euro-American writers to 'steal' from other cultures in order to jump on the multicultural bandwagon, unless they have direct, personal experience in the country

where that culture originates."

And by direct experience she doesn't mean being a tourist or doing lots of research — she means actually living in that culture. Her passion is a historical one — years of her ancestors being "silenced" have made her adamant about the need for cultural authenticity and the right to tell her own story. She ends this piece by suggesting that Euro-American writers write books about "the pain of a Euro-American child growing up without knowledge of her ancestral culture."

Because my own background is so mixed, I find this idea appealing — I would love to read a book about a woman whose relatives are Polish/Scottish/Jewish/southern. And as I say that, it helps me understand why we must encourage writers to create literature that speaks the truth about its characters — for, by doing that, they are giving all of us a voice.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aclib.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, Ext. 17.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

The Albany Library presents a drop-in poetry-writing workshop led by Alison Seevak on Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Seevak is an Albany poet and teacher who has taught writing to children and adults at Bay Area schools and community arts centers.

The event, to be held in the Edith Stone Room, is free and open to all ages.

The Albany Library is located at 1247 Marin Ave., and is a branch of the Alameda County Library. For more information, call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720, ext. 17.

On Tuesday at 7 p.m., the duo Just Kidding will perform traditional American music using song, instruments and movement at the Albany Library. Its focus is to invite the audience to become involved in the creative process of performing music. Instruments will include washboards, sandblocks, shakers, kazoes and spoons.

This is the latest in a series of free summer Tuesday evening events at the Albany Library. No registration is required, and all ages are welcome.

For more information, call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720, ext. 17.

Margo Weckler will host another of her origami events at the Albany Library on Saturday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. In this workshop, participants will learn the mysterious inside-reverse fold and then make the elegant eight-unit modular ring. It can be used as art, decoration, ornament, greeting card or jewelry.

Weckler is an artist, teacher and storyteller. She has been folding origami since she was 8, and will fold anything from gum and candy wrappers and paper placemats to recycled class announcements and occasionally even origami paper.

All supplies are provided, and no registration is required. All ages are welcome. Cookies will be served.

For more information, call Julie Winkelstein at 510-526-3720, ext. 17.

— Craig Lazeretti

A puppet show celebrating the conclusion of the summer reading program at the Kensington Library will be held at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 23, at the library, 61 Arlington Ave.

P&T Puppet Theatre will perform. A drawing for a large stuffed dragon puppet will be held after the show. For more information, call 510-524-3043.

— Alan Lopez

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middles, 1918 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail to pamiddles@comcast.net or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

retells biblical story of Joseph and comes alive when performed by young actors. Tickets: \$7.50-\$20; call 925-798-1300. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Black Repertory Group** Youth Department's Summer Day Camp is through August for this summer's production of "The Wiz" at 3201 Adeline St., Berkeley. Details: 510-652-2120 or www.blackrepertorygroup.com.

Free. Coming up: Lama Amdo on "The Great Guru Padmasambhava" 6 p.m. Aug. 14. Hugh Josselyn and Santosh Philip on "Meditation and Philosophy" 6 p.m. Aug. 21. Charka Jurgens on "Staying Young through Kung Fu" 6 p.m. Aug. 28. Details: 510-843-6812 or www.nyimga.org.

■ **North Berkeley Senior Center**, 1901 Hearst Ave., presents the following free events: Aug. 8: Dr. Lorin McGillis will give a talk about nerve diseases and diagnostic tests at 10:30 a.m. — Aug. 9: Lucio Ellis shows video, leads a discussion about "Seat of the Human Soul" at 1 p.m. — Aug. 16: Parkinson's Support Group hosts speaker Richard Chan for a discussion about quality of life issues for people with Parkinson's disease at 10 a.m. — Aug. 16, 30: Cecilia Wann gives paper sculpture workshops at 1:30 p.m. — Aug. 23: Ice Cream Social features Diana Perry, ragtime and boogie music at 1:15 p.m. Details: 510-981-5190.

■ **Berkeley Chamber of Commerce** presents its "Meet and Greet" Networking "Full Breakfast" 8-9 a.m. Aug. 10 at Rose Garden Inn, 2740 Telegraph Ave. Visit with new and seasoned members, bring business cards, enjoy full breakfast, coffee. Cost: members \$15-\$20; non-members \$30. Registration deadline Aug. 9. — Sunset Mixer 5:30-7 p.m. Aug. 18 at Jupiter Restaurant, 2181 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Hors d'oeuvres, brew pub. Admission: \$20. Details: 510-549-7000 or www.berkeleychamber.com.

■ **Ecology Center's Berkeley Farmer's Markets** are at three locations and times: Tuesday's Market is 2-7 p.m. on Derby Street at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. — North Shattuck farmers market is 3-7 p.m. Thursdays at Shattuck Avenue at Rose Street. It features all organically grown produce. — Saturday's market is 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Civic Center

Park, Center Street & Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. All markets open year 'round, rain or shine. Details: 510-548-3333 or go to www.ecologycenter.org. Coming up: Tomato tasting 2-7 p.m. Aug. 9. — Tomato tasting 10 a.m.-3 p.m., theater piece on organic agriculture 11 a.m., 12:30 p.m.; chef cooking demonstration 11:30 a.m. Aug. 13. — Downtown Berkeley Jazz Festival '05 concert by Jessica Neighbor and the Hoods 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 20.

■ **Great War Society** holds its monthly meeting 10:30 a.m. Aug. 13 at 640 Arlington Ave., Berkeley. Topic: "American Field Service - the Men & Material" by Robert Denison. Details: 510-527-7118.

■ **Hopalong Animal Rescue** hosts the following pet adoption events: Dogs 12-3 p.m. Aug. 13, 27 at PetSmart, 1001 Eastshore Hwy, Albany; Cats 12-3 p.m. Aug. 13, 20, 27 at Your Basic Bird, 2940 College Ave., Berkeley. Details: 510-267-1915 or www.hopalong.org.

■ **Red Oak Victory ship** holds its monthly Pancake Breakfast 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Aug. 14 at Berth 5a, 1337 Canal Blvd., Richmond harbor. Cost: \$6; free for children under five. Details: 510-237-2933.

■ **BMW Ultimate Drive** for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is 10 a.m.-6 p.m. through October at Weatherford BMW, 750 Potter St., Berkeley. Test drive a fleet vehicle and BMW will donate \$1 for every mile driven to Foundation. Details: 877-4-A-DRIVE.

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Coming Up Children

■ **Years Vacation Bible School** theme is "Road Trip Across the USA" from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. through Aug. 5 at The Church on the Corner, 1319 Solano Ave., Albany. Details: www.albanyfirstbaptist.org or 510-243-7410.

■ **Shakespeare Camps** for youth ages 7-18 are weekdays 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Hinkel Park, 41 Somerset Ave., Berkeley. Aftercare available until 5:30 p.m. Schedule: 1st-4th grades through Aug. 5, Aug. 8-19. Cost: \$395, \$520 with aftercare. To enroll: call 800-978-8400 or download forms at www.sf-shakespeare.org and fax to 415-865-4433.

■ **Ashkenaz Music & Dance Community Center**, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, presents: Ashba performs his original Caribbean music 3-4:30 p.m. Aug. 7. Cost: \$4-\$6. Details: www.ashkenaz.com or 510-525-5054.

■ **Albany Library** presents: Wildlife Biology Research Camp for grades 9-12 is Aug. 8-13 at University of CA Sagehen Creek Field Station. — Marine Biology Research Camp for grades 9-12 is Aug. 11-22 at University of CA Bodega Marine Lab. Details: Julie 510-526-3720.

■ **Julia Morgan Theatre's Family Film Series** presents "Charlotte's Web" at 11 a.m. Aug. 14 at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Animated 1972 musical features E.B. White's beloved character's novel to life. Tickets: \$5 at door. Details: www.juliamorgan.org.

■ **Stage Door Conservatory** presents "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 19 and 5 p.m. Aug. 20, 21 at Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. This spirited family musical by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber

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On September 10th and 11th, the park will host a big birthday bash, sponsored by the Lake Merritt Breakfast Club Foundation, that will include 2 days of very special performances and activities.

To get you in the spirit of celebration, we are hosting a Fairyland trivia contest. One winner from the first 20 correct answers each week will be randomly drawn. One of these winners will then be drawn at the end of the contest, and will win a family fantasy package: Fairyland Summer Sleepover for family of four (summer '06 season), a special basket from the Oakland Zoo with papers and treats from Chabot Space and Science Center, Hoopers, Fentons (details to follow).

"Trivia Question"
When Fairyland first opened its magic gates, two official greeters welcomed the children. What was special about them?

Send your answers to: 55years@fairylnd.org. The final winner will be notified prior to the birthday celebration at Fairyland, where the grand prize will be presented.



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THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

Montclair Bistro

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Montclair Bistro

Appetizers/Small Plates

Panko crusted Dungeness crab cakes, grapefruit remoulade, grapefruit 13.

Woodland mushroom sandwich, caramelized onions, light puff pastry, Cognac-cream 11.

Tuna tartare, tomato concasse, red chili vinaigrette, wasabi, won ton, micro greens 13.

Crispy chicken filets, roasted red pepper dip 9.

Pan seared day boat scallops and Cognac infused Sonoma free range duck foie, caramelized spring onions, plums, mache, port reduction 16.

Salads/Soups

Char grilled spinach salad, endive, almonds, toasts, lemon dressing 9.

Bistro Caesar, roasted croutons, parmesan Reggiano, anchovies 10.

Fried greens, pears, gorgonzola, candied walnuts, balsamic vinaigrette 9.

Chilled Champagne potato leek bisque, potato crisps, chives 9.

Poached Maine lobster ravioli, mache, saffron broth 12.

Sides

Sauteed Marsala spinach 4. Brown butter Brussels sprouts 4. Grilled asparagus, Balsamic vinegar 4. Anna potatoes 4. Fried okra 4.

*An 18% gratuity will be automatically added to parties of 6 or larger.

Entrees

Roasted breast of chicken, prosciutto, sage, gruyere, pan jus 19.

Blackened Pacific salmon kabob, sauteed greens, organic tomato and citrus vinaigrettes, corn polenta 23.

Panko crusted sole, wasabi beurre blanc, baby bok choy, jasmine rice, trio of tobiko caviars 24.

Summer ratatouille-succotash of roasted corn and vegetables in season, steamed rice 16.

Braised beef Bourguignon, caramelized onions, assorted mushrooms, greens, steamed rice 19.

Bistro Black Angus New York steak, truffled bordelaise, Colbert butter, Anna potatoes 25.

Char grilled loin of pork, sun dried grape-Cabernet essence 22.

Mixed grill of char broiled filet mignon together with almond crusted lobster cake, pinot demi, wild mushrooms, sauteed greens, Anna potatoes 26.



Sushi House

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Sunday - Thursday
From 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Friday & Saturday
From 11:00 AM to 10:30 PM

2375 Shoreline Drive,
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www.sushihouse.com

510-865-0999
fax: 510-865-2404

Avoid waiting! Fax in your order in advance!

Cafe Enrico

Since 1978, 875D Island Drive, Alameda, (510) 522-0128
For fine Italian dining at it's best, visit Cafe Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay lagoon. Full bar service features special cocktails daily with exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Cafe Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two and three times a week. Enrico's famous Lobster Tail Dinner (\$20.95 after 6 pm) and house specialty steamed (Manila clams and fresh seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. Cafe Enrico is open daily. Sat & Sun Brunch is served until 3 pm and Early Bird Specials (12.95) are served Mon-Fri until 6 pm and Sat & Sun until 5 pm. For Reservations, please call (510) 522-0129, MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$5

El Caballo

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda, (510) 521-4032
Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paella Estilo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461
West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. Katsu is open for lunch M-S from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner every day from 5-9:30pm. Reservations recommended.

Montclair Bistro

6118 Medua Place, Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282
Chef Henry Vorttriede's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings". The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French Flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. Montclair offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit www.MontclairBistro.com.

The New Zealander

1400 Webster St., Alameda (510) 769-8555
Come and meet Clive Hitchens, New Zealander's award-winning chef! Clive has cooked for the Queen Mum and Prince Charles, also Elton John and many more royals and dignitaries. Clive has been classically trained 27 years as a chef. His favorite food is clean, fresh and wholesome. We feature Atkins Ranch New Zealand Lamb & Beef. Free range, no added hormones or antibiotics. Desserts are made fresh daily! Try our Ribeye steak, Lamb Burgers or daily Fresh Fish. And, of course, our Pies and New Zealand Pavlova.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621
Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular eatbird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun - Thurs 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri - Sat 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. - Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner.

Sophia Cafe

1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663
Sophia Cafe is a tiny haven for Mideast food. Owner Moti Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussake (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy any entree on the menu for only \$7.95. Offer valid only with ad coupon from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. Open Sun-Fri 11-9pm.

Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999
When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sallie Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday & Saturday. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC VS \$5

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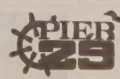
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THE DINING GUIDE



Featured Menu Montclair Bistro

Philosophy: Metrix Cuisine - "A synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and surroundings." - Henry Vortriede, Chef/Owner

Cuisine: Creative California with a French Flare

Location: 6118 Medau Place,
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Capacity: Main Dining Room: 54 seated
Lower Level: 25 seated
Cocktail Standing reception: 80-100

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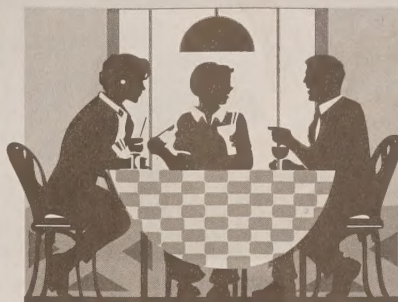
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Menica Almonte
World Traveler and Alameda Resident

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Malasha & Greg Matthews



Legend: \$ rating is average dinner entrée price

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CB.....	Carte Blanche	\$.....	\$7-\$14
DC.....	Diners Club	\$\$\$.....	\$15-\$20
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Voted Best Chef in Alameda for 2004, chef Sabor Zafari creates a symphony of culinary delight in every dining experience at Angela's. Zafari prepares all his recipes from scratch daily, gathering fresh, organic ingredients from local farmers' markets in and around Alameda. Also voted Best Wine List for 2004, Angela's offers a marvelous menu of wines to compliment your experience. Visit Zafari and the superb staff at Angela's for an Alameda fine-dining experience with candle-lit ambience.

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Café Ya 'sou
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Café Ya 'sou takes guests on a culinary journey to the Mediterranean, bringing the flavors of Greece and her neighbors to Alameda. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Ya 'sou has a reputation of pleasing guests with old-fashioned Greek specialties created by Stelios. Try one of many home-style entrees, including Moussaka, Spanikopita, Tiropitakia, Osso Buco, and Dolmas (Greek sampler) to name only a few. Vegetarian entrees are available upon request. Greek desserts, cakes pastries from old family recipes are not to be missed. Catering is also a specialty at Café Ya 'sou, offering delicious sit-down or buffet-style dinners for private parties, corporate events, weddings and more. A catered Sunday brunch can be arranged for your church or community center. Café Ya 'sou is located at 1265 Harbor Bay Pkwy #100 in Alameda. (510) 522-7991.

Kamakura
2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121
Faith Yamato and the chefs of Kamakura present SHARI, the highest quality of rice that envelopes Sushi. The best short grain premium rice available in the USA is used for Kamakura's Sushi. The "Tamanishiki" brand of rice definitely provides the decisive edge in Sushi quality and taste. Following centuries old Japanese culinary practice, the rice is gently steamed, then seasoned with an aged-vinegar blend, and carefully fanned to cool to achieve the perfect, firm, yet moist texture, pliable but not sticky; there is no shortcut. For authentic, delectable Sushi and original Japanese creations, dine-in, take-out and party catering, visit or contact Kamakura Restaurant, 2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. (510) 521-9121. Wheel chair access, accepting Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover. Open for Lunch Mon. - Sat. 11:30-2:30; Dinner served daily 5pm-10pm.

La Pinata 3
1440 Park St., Alameda (510) 769-9111
La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with authentic, delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3 introduced their Taco Bar, offering authentic Mexican tacos prepared the old-fashioned way, with traditional ingredients. In addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, including Albondigas (meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famous Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (desserts) and after dinner drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive about La Pinata 3 is the popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest variety of 100% Agave tequila in Alameda, and perhaps the entire East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3 is guaranteed to turn you in to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from 7am to 3am, and Happy Hour is from 4-5pm M-F Weekend Specials and a \$9.50 Sunday Brunch are also available. www.lapinata.com (Look for La Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Concord with 2 tequila bars!)

Sabuy Sabuy II
1233 San Pablo, Berkeley (510) 528-3932
Enjoy Thai cuisine with California flair at the new Sabuy Sabuy II. Your visit will begin with a warm greeting, welcoming you to experience Sabuy Sabuy's specialties: savory soups, salads, delicious meat and Vegetarian dishes, all prepared with only the most fresh vegetables and meats by family cooks with decades of experience. Dinner is served M-Sat from 5-9:30pm. Lunch is served daily from 11 am - 3pm with specials starting at \$5.95.

Toomles Thai Cuisine
1433 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-8008
Narong Udomsak and his wife Toomle moved from Thailand in 1985 and have been in a Thai family restaurant business in Oregon ever since. Now they have brought their eighteen-year experience in Thai Thai cuisine to Alameda. Toomle's Thai offers a large selection of mouth-watering authentic Thai dishes. Each dish is guaranteed in quality and freshness. Come try Toomle's fresh spring rolls, crab fried rice, pad Thai noodles, flaming beef, tom yum soup, seafood casserole in coconut shell and other favorites. Located in the heart of the Park Street Business District. Open 7 days a week. Come in and try the newest Thai restaurant in Alameda! Hours: 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; 5 - 9:30 p.m. Mon-Thurs 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.; 5-10 p.m. Fri 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sat. • 5 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Sun.

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Moss

FROM PAGE A1

Elizabeth Gutfeldt continued leading the church but found it difficult in the past two years because of health problems.

Moss joined the group in September, as part of seminary course work at the University of Pacific. Attendance has doubled in the past nine months, from about 12 to 24 people.

"He worked hard for us," Elizabeth Gutfeldt said. "He drove

taxis in San Francisco to earn money for his family because we weren't big enough to really support him. But now we're stepping out on faith and hiring him full time."

A Pacifica resident, Moss said he attended seminary from 2001 to 2004 after a crisis in his life.

"I was not a religious person at all," Moss said. "But I did have a background that basically told me there was something more than what we pick up beyond our five senses."

On a recent Sunday, he led a worship in front of sunny wall-

length windows at the church. With about 20 parishioners sitting in a circle, the worship resembled a discussion group — which in some ways it was.

Between group prayer and singing of hymns, Moss delivered a sermon on the fourth commandment: Honor thy father and mother. A few parishioners chimed in with their own thoughts.

He led the discussion with humor and an understated authority. With a smile, he paused before telling a joke, or offering an anecdote about his own life.

Following his first sermon as

an ordained minister last month, several parishioners gave him gifts, including a stole that belonged to Horan Gutfeldt.

"In general, there's a feeling he's one of us," said 55-year-old Eileen Andrade, a member of the church on and off her whole life. "And we can learn a lot from him but at same time he's continuing to learn, too. That has been a really nice feeling for us. That this is a journey we're all on together."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Canepa

FROM PAGE A1

As he talked in his studio surrounded by art pieces he has fabricated out of metal, he pulled out sketches to show and quickly dashed off new ones.

Ideas include an archway with a gauchito, the school's mascot, over the entrance to the campus. Instead of just room numbers painted on the corners of the buildings, he sees "street signs."

In addition, he would like to create a new senior pit with concrete benches — laid out in an "S" pattern — that can withstand four years of student use and still be removed or relocated when the new campus opens.

A large fiberglass sculpture sign featuring E=MC² would go on the side of the TechFutures building. Swinging plywood signs in the shape of a pizza slice and hamburger would dress up the temporary food court that will substitute for the cafeteria.

Canepa also has been in touch with Jurassic Palms in Albany about the possibility of leasing to each senior class potted palm trees, with the possibility of the classes raising funds to buy and plant them as a permanent part of the new campus.

The ECHS community is already familiar with Canepa's work.

In recent years, he has been in charge of doing decorations for the school's highly praised grad nights, choosing a theme and, with the tireless work of parent volunteers, creating a believable rendition in the manner of a movie set.

Most recently, he came up with the multigenerational decorations used at the "Last Dance" held at the gymnasium before it was torn down.

He also advises all four class levels on their floats for the annual homecoming parade.

It was the homecoming parade some 30 years ago, in fact, that got him started in his creative endeavors when he designed the freshman class float during his first year at El Cerrito High.

He also kept himself busy in art classes. "When I went to school, the art department was where they dumped the bad kids," Canepa said. "Artists like myself had the back of the room to ourselves."

After graduating, he studied art for a year at San Francisco State, then completed his degree at Chico State.

From there, the road led to Southern California, where he found out Disney wasn't hiring, but the Tournament of Roses was. As a result, he designed some 62 floats over the years for the an-



MARK DUFRENE/STAFF

EL CERRITO artist Mark Canepa is working on making the transitional El Cerrito High School campus an inviting place, rather than something that "looks like an internment camp."

nual Rose Bowl and Fiesta Bowl parades.

Canepa also opened an art gallery, but in the Southland, "I found people were more interested in props."

He found a steady business creating settings for corporate and private parties, sculptures for commercials, and designs for concerts, casinos and billboards. Not to mention pieces that were sent up in flames at the Burning Man Festival.

Over time, Canepa also realized the SoCal showbiz lifestyle wasn't necessarily conducive to

good health, and that's when he decided to return home to El Cerrito.

The commissioned art and projects he's taken on since moving back may not have the prestige of what he did down South, but they're nonetheless rewarding. Canepa is on the El Cerrito Arts and Culture Commission and did "Heron's," a metal sculpture on the Albany waterfront commissioned by that city and the state Coastal Conservancy.

And, of course, he got back in touch with his roots by getting involved with his old high school.

At initial meetings about what to do to make the campus more welcoming, "I was really adamant," Canepa said. "I went to school there, my mother went there, my brother went there. I played football. I ran track."

And maybe now he can pass along the love of creativity that was nurtured there.

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Albany

FROM PAGE A1

In his proposal, Maris also suggests that the council consider Berkeley's approach, which involves a committee of the council to review items. Pollard recommends against it because it may be too cumbersome.

Maris could not be reached for comment.

In other business, the council will again consider placing a parcel tax on the November ballot that would charge residents \$145 per household, raising \$1 million annually for a variety of city programs and improvements.

On Tuesday, the Albany School District Board will also consider placing a parcel tax on a future ballot. The board is considering a measure that would tax \$220 per home and 44 cents per square foot of commercial space. A public hearing on the tax will be held at 7:30 p.m. during the board's regular meeting.

The tax would provide exemptions for seniors and low-income homeowners and renters. It would sunset after seven years.

School District Superintendent Willie Wong said the board is still wrestling with whether it should move forward with a November 2005 or June 2006 ballot measure and if approved, how the district would use the more than \$1.95 million raised annually.

Both the city and the school district have until Aug. 12 to submit parcel tax language to the county for inclusion on the November ballot.

Last Monday, the council and school board in a joint meeting rejected an effort to place a joint

The council will again consider placing a parcel tax on the November ballot that would charge residents \$145 per household, raising \$1 million annually for a variety of city programs and improvements.

tax on the November ballot.

Finally, on Monday, the council will consider adopting a resolution upholding a decision of a planning and zoning commission decision to allow Mary's College High School to retain a band pavilion on campus and 652 square feet of classroom space.

In 1999, the city had the school to tear down buildings as a condition of allowing it to build Francis Hall, a 9,100-square-foot two-story building with classrooms.

The Peralta Park Neighborhood Association appealed the decision by the city and zoning commission to keep St. Mary's to keep the building.

At its July 5 meeting, the council agreed to allow Mary's to keep the building temporarily but not to use it.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



ONE WITH THE LANDSCAPE: The Monterey-style home at 140 Estates Drive in Piedmont blends with its surroundings, above; architect J. K. Ballantine capped the chimney with its own tiled roof; the pool complements the home's spacious grounds, right.

Monterey-style gem tucked away off Estates Drive

Piedmont home offers style, privacy
BY DENNIS EVANOSKY
SECTION EDITOR

The home at 140 Estates Drive in Piedmont offers visitors one of the city's most pleasant surprises. Instead of finding a house on Estates Drive, the home's first owner and the architect they chose to tuck the home away off the street in a natural wonderland.

In 1933, Oakland physician Doctor T. Eric Reynolds (Ric to his friends) wanted to celebrate his successful career as an Oakland physician. Reynolds had come to California before World War I to study horticulture at the University of California at Berkeley. The war interrupted his studies and he served his country during this "War to End All Wars" as both

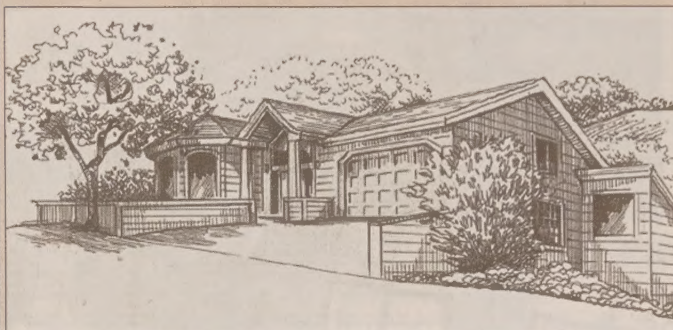
See HOME, Page B2



PHOTOS BY DENNIS EVANOSKY

Real Estate Spotlight:

Live large in Montclair



BUILT IN 1992 BY JACKSON MOSHER, this impressive contemporary home at 6845 Oakwood in Montclair features sophisticated design, quality finishes and truly grand proportions. With over 4,200 square feet (approximate) of living space, the home is designed to capture the lush vistas unique to its Montclair hills location.

It has three bedrooms and two and one-half baths including master suite with fireplace and luxurious bath. The gourmet kitchen has granite and hardwood and a dining alcove. Living and dining rooms feature vaulted ceilings, with a deck and fireplace. Large office with hardwood floors, arched doorways and built-ins. Stylish in-law quarters have recently been added, offering an additional 1200 square feet of living space including a kitchen and two full baths.

Price: \$1,295,000.

Agent: Cathy Truelove, Century 21 Heritage Real Estate, 510-339-8900, ext. 304, or e-mail ctruelove@c21hre.com.

California home prices, sales continue to sizzle

■ Median home price at \$542,720, sales up 3.6 percent compared to last June

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The median price of an existing home in California in June increased 16 percent and sales in-

creased 3.6 percent compared with the same period a year ago, according to the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.).

"Fixed mortgage interest rates have fallen compared with a year ago, and remain below 6 percent," said C.A.R. President Jim Hamilton. "This continues to propel both sales

See REPORT, Page B4

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PHOTOS BY DENNIS EVANOSKY



AT HOME IN THE MONTEREY STYLE: Architect J.K. Ballantine and physician T. Eric Reynolds teamed up to create a Piedmont idyll. Shown clockwise from top left are: the living room, the yard with the swimming pool, the staircase and the dining room.

VITAL STATISTICS

What: A 1933 Monterey-style home at 140 Estates Drive in Piedmont
Size: A 4,042-square-foot home on a 33,000-square-foot lot

Bedrooms: Four

Bathrooms: Four full; one partial

Features: The home is set well off Estates Drive on its own private driveway. The grounds include gardens, flagstone paths, decks, patios, a circular drive and a swimming pool. The home's interior design includes vaulted, exposed wood beamed ceilings, plank hardwood floors and incredible detailing throughout.

Price: \$2,380,000

Listing agent: Nahid Nassiri, Montclair Better Homes Realty, 510-339-8400; nahid@nahidnassiri.com



A BADGE OF HIS HERITAGE: Architect John Knox Ballantine left a Scottish thistle stamped on the fireplace at 140 Estate Drive in Piedmont, above. The real thing is shown at the right.



UNITED STATES CONSUL: John Larkin of Boston was the Monterey style with the construction of his home in Monterey in 1835. The home is still stands.

Home

FROM PAGE B1

an enlisted man and an ensign in the United States Navy.

After the war, Reynolds returned to his studies, but instead of horticulture, he decided to study medicine. By 1926, he had finished medical school and set up a practice on Franklin Street in downtown Oakland. Seven years later he bought the property at 140 Estates Drive in Piedmont and hired Berkeley architect John Knox Ballantine Jr. to design a home for him and his family.

Reynolds' career path would later lead him to service in World War II's Pacific theater and to the presidency of the California Medical Association.

Ballantine and Reynolds worked closely to create a haven where the

physician and his wife and two children could enjoy privacy and the property's natural surroundings, which include ancient, impressive oaks and a towering redwood.

Twenty-five years later, Reynolds shared the pride he had in his family's property by opening the home and the grounds to the public for "Garden Sanctuary Sunday."

"Landscaping done by Dr. Reynolds," the family's 1958 invitation boasted.

Reynolds left his stamp on the home's landscaping and natural surroundings—which include a swimming pool. Ballantine literally left his mark on the home itself—he signed his work with a Scottish thistle on the home's fireplace.

Ballantine had much to be proud of. His creation drew on Northern California's architectural legacy with the Monterey-style home he de-

signed and built for the family. The architect sited the home to make an ancient oak and a nearby redwood part of his composition. Indeed the home with its signature balcony helped accent Reynolds' landscape.

The home's style has its roots in United States Consul Thomas O. Larkin's 1835 home in Monterey. The Californios—those of Spanish descent who lived in California—considered Larkin's two-story design bold. Larkin accented his home's second story with a balcony that traversed the facade. This balcony, which Ballantine echoed at 140 Estates Drive, is the style's signature.

The National Association of Realtors Web site www.Realtor.com calls Larkin's design "the prototype of the architectural style known as Monterey Colonial, a combination of Spanish adobe style with New

England frame construction that was widely adopted in California."

Indeed Ballantine used Spanish elements popular in California during the 1930s. For example, he adorned the home with a red tiled roof and echoed this roof on the chimney top.

Inside Ballantine no doubt worked with Reynolds to bring nature's light into the home. Large windows allow this light to bathe both the spacious dining room and the large, comfortable living room. Ballantine spared no time or expense on the living room's vaulted beamed ceiling, its fireplace with his signature thistle or its carefully crafted floors.

An impressive staircase leads upstairs to the home's four bedrooms and access to the balcony with its bay and San Francisco views.

As one stands in the living room, the lawn and swimming pool draw the eye outside. However, once outside one discovers so much more. A patio complements the back of the house. A larger-than-usual playhouse is here. The present owners have given this miniature home the address of 161, to remember their home at 161 Vicente Road in Berkeley that they lost in the 1991 Oakland-Berkeley Hills Firestorm. "Buy one, get one free," the owners said, referring to the smaller playhouse.

Coincidentally, Ballantine had also designed the current owner's Vicente Road home.

To the right of the swimming pool a set of stairs leads to a stonework grill with its own small patio. Beyond, paths wind their way through the rest of the 33,000-square-foot property.

The Reynolds family enjoyed their home well into the 1970s. Reynolds particularly enjoyed the soothing sounds of the birds. On his 1958 invitation he noted all the birds that attract the birds. For example, left "dead tree stumps" nesting woodpeckers and food especially for quail, an ant finch family. "Number of bird visitors over the years," he wrote, "Number of bird visitors over the years." So if you would like to be in the midst of the Reynolds family retreat and in J. K. Ballantine's Monterey-style creation, this may be for you.

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MEMBERS OF THE BERKELEY ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS Special Events Committee gathered with pride at the successful Bar Affiliate Fair. Pictured left to right are Tabia Berry, Nicolas Marin, Kamba Miller, Rich Graf and Karen Davis.

Berkeley Realtors appreciate their Affiliates—and show it

BY BOBBIE RIED
CORRESPONDENT

It was a tasting party. It was an information fair. It was getting to know you and networking and much more.

The Berkeley Association of Realtors (BAR) Special Events Committee planned and hosted the recent Affiliate Appreciation Affair. The event was set up as an information fair in the BAR Auditorium, at the association's building on Martin Luther King Jr. Way in Berkeley.

Affiliate members manned their booths to highlight the services they offer real estate professionals. Realtors were encouraged to view new products and technology. They met with familiar faces and were intro-

duced to new ones. Each booth offered a unique food dish for tasting.

Realtors were given passports for travel from booth to booth. Those passports with stamps from every booth were entered into a drawing. Just for fun prizes were awarded.

The Affiliate members are an integral part of every home sale. Affiliate companies handle title work and mortgage services, as well as everything home related from inspections to staging. As part of a real estate team they offer behind the scenes help, beneficial to consumers as well as Realtors.

Members of the Special Events Committee attending the event were Tabia Berry of First

American Title, Nicolas Marin of Thousand Oaks Financial, Kamba Miller of Wells Fargo, Rich Graf of Old Republic Title and Karen Davis of Placer Title. Other members include Committee Chair Gene Della Maggiora and Tania Balazs both of Coldwell Banker, Yvonne Guyton-Johnson of Bay Area Real Estate Ladies and Lorie Williams of Financial Title.

The Berkeley Association of Realtors was founded over 100 years ago. At its inception in 1902, the group was known as the Berkeley Board of Realtors.

Members of BAR also belong to the California Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors.

Learn more at www.BerkeleyAOR.com

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries

FOR THE PUBLIC

Houses

Attend "Our Houses" in Alameda. From stained glass to Victorian classics, the Alameda Museum provides lectures for everyone who loves homes. Prominent Bay Area authors and historians narrate slide lectures. The next lecture in the series is "Pattiani PowerPoint" by Paul Roberts. Join the author at the museum, 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 25. The presentation is in conjunction with his new book on Pattiani, an Alameda architect. For lecture information call 510-748-0796.

Habitat Raffle

Coldwell Banker Real Estate is hosting a community-wide raffle to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity. There are more than 45 prizes including a \$5000 grand prize. Raffle tickets are only \$2 each. The raffle will run through Aug. 26. For a list of CB offices visit www.CaliforniaMoves.com.

Inform

The public is always welcome at the Inform Meeting sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. The meeting is 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 9, at the Garden Isle Community Center on Melrose Avenue in Alameda. The topic is Feng Shui. Agents are encouraged to bring information on new listings.



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

For ticket information contact Kristin McMahan of AAR at 510-523-7229.

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See REID, Page B6

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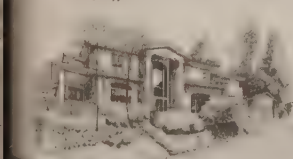
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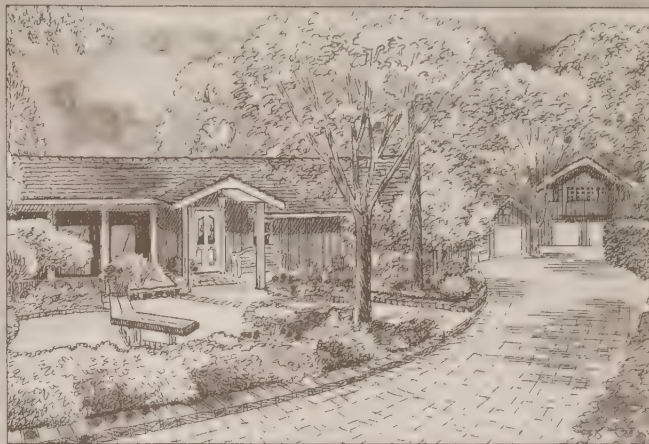
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Real Estate Focus:

Resort-like living in Lafayette



THE HOME AT 3911 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD is like a private resort. It's on a quiet lane surrounded by oaks and redwoods in the Happy Valley area of Lafayette. There are four spacious bedrooms and six full baths in the main house. An eat-in Epicurean kitchen has an adjoining family room with fireplace and soaring ceiling with skylights. Formal dining room with French doors to the outdoor patio. Lot size is approximately 1.53 acres, beautifully landscaped with a brick patio, swimming pool and lighted tennis court. The cabana/au pair suite over the two-car garage has a kitchen, bedroom and bathroom plus wonderful views of the property. Master suite has its own sitting area with fireplace, skylights and door leading to the hot tubs, plus master bath with deep tub, shower with double heads and a skylight. A great and gracious estate.

Price: \$3,500,000.

Listing agent: Jerilyn Nabington, Coldwell Banker Previews International, 510-421-9000, 925-253-4601, www.discriminatinghomes.com.

Credit — costly mistakes you can avoid

My last column produced mail from readers in the form of specific questions about improving credit and raising FICO scores. Brisk home buying activity, such as we've seen this year, always heightens interest in credit because people rudely discover that their Perfect House will not become a reality. Why? Their credit falls short of ideal for many lenders.

I did a little research into the questions and came across a gem of a book, *Do You Make These 38 Mistakes With Your Credit* by Stephen Snyder and published by Bellwether, Inc. Go to www.38mistakes.com for ordering information. It's a little book — you can read it over a leisurely cup of coffee — and it's packed with credit score-raising tidbits.

Here are several of Snyder's mistakes; numbered according to his book, which I hope will answer reader questions:

Mistake 3: When you sign a credit application or give a lender your social security number, you give that lender permission to look at your credit report(s).

This appears as a line item on the bottom of your reports and is commonly referred to as a credit inquiry.

Don't give a lender your Social Security number or sign a credit application until you know the lender's credit guidelines. Credit inquiries that you initiate lower your credit scores. If the lender won't tell you

their guidelines, walk away. It's not worth the risk of a credit injury. Credit inquiries remain on your credit reports for two years. However, they count against your scores for only the first 12 months they appear.

Mistake 5: You will get higher FICO scores if you pay off your credit card balances every month. The closer you get them to zero, the better.

What we learned is that there is a lag time in each lender's reporting your balances to the credit report agencies. It can take up to 60 days, so unless you stop using the account for 2 months, your credit report may never show a zero balance.

Mistake 6: When you max out your credit limit or even come close, you appear more risky to a lender and credit scores suffer. If you want to increase your credit scores fast, pay off your credit card balances each month.

Mistake 7: The credit reporting system in the U.S. is voluntary. Lenders are not required to report your payment history to the three credit reporting agencies.

Credit unions are the worst offenders and the majority chooses not to report your payment history to the Big 3.

If your lenders are not reporting your excellent payment history, your FICO's will not be as high as they could be. Ask your potential lender



KEN BALL
Mortgage Musings




Don't give a lender your Social Security number or sign a credit application until you know the lender's credit guidelines. Credit inquiries that you initiate lower your credit scores.

about their policy on this and consider shopping elsewhere if the lender doesn't report your payment history.

Mistake 8: The author says there is an art to shopping for the best interest rate and because having too many inquiries will lower your FICO scores, he suggests you do all your shopping for a vehicle loan or mortgage within a 14-day

See BALL, Page B4

A sampling of our current listings

	Vallejo Carquinez Heights 2 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath. Just 30 minutes to Oakland or Marin. Great unit for partners or shared ownership with 2 master suites. Tenant occupied thru Sept 2005. \$385,000
	Fruitvale Craftsman Remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath spacious bungalow with many upgrades. Inlaid wood floors, plenty of off street parking and attractive gardens and rear deck. \$479,000
	Civic Center Two year new condo in the heart of San Francisco. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. An elegant and refined condo with marble bathrooms and granite/stainless kitchen. 1 car garage parking. \$695,000



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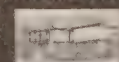


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Report

FROM PAGE B1

and the median price of a home as consumers gauge current market conditions against future interest rate increases."

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled 666,310 in June at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90

HIGHEST MEDIAN PRICES

Manhattan Beach, \$1,570,000
Malibu, \$1,550,000
Laguna Beach, \$1,537,500
Los Altos, \$1,424,000
La Canada Flintridge, \$1,395,000
Palos Verdes Estates, \$1,360,000
Saratoga, \$1,350,000
Newport Beach, \$1,300,000
Coronado, \$1,275,000
Hermosa Beach, \$1,249,500

GREATEST MEDIAN PRICE INCREASES

Twenty-nine Palms, 81.2 percent
Sanger, 72.5 percent
Reedley, 66.1 percent
La Canada Flintridge, 61.3 percent
Desert Hot Springs, 57.6 percent
Barstow, 53.8 percent
Selma, 53.3 percent
Visalia, 49.4 percent
Norco, 48.5 percent
Benicia, 48.3 percent.

(Increases compared with June 2004)

local Realtor associations statewide. Statewide home resale activity increased 3.6 percent from the 633,660 sales pace recorded in June 2004.

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2005 would be if sales maintained the June pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during June 2005 was \$542,720, a 16 percent increase over the revised \$468,050 median for June 2004, C.A.R. reported. The June 2005 median price increased 3.8 percent compared with May's revised \$522,900 median price.

"Inventory levels in recent months were nearly double that of a year ago," said C.A.R. Vice President and Chief Economist Leslie Appleton-Young. "This has contributed to the increased pace of home sales in the presence of continued strong demand for housing in California."

Highlights

■ C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in June 2005 was 2.7 months, compared with 1.7 months (revised) for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

■ Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 5.58 percent during June 2005, compared with 6.29 percent in June 2004, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 4.24 percent in June 2005 compared with 4.10 percent in June 2004.

■ The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 27 days in June 2005, compared with 23 days (revised) for the same period a year ago.

The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes are generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout the state. MLS median price and sales data for condominiums are based on a survey of more than 60 associations. The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 97.5 percent or 396 of 406 cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago. DataQuick statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information.

Large changes in local median home prices typically indicate both local home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity. Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

Ball

FROM PAGE B3

period. All credit inquiries within this timeframe count as only one credit inquiry. By next year, this time period extends to 45 days.

Mistake 15: Co-signing for another is risky because if they default, you are still held responsible for making payments on time. Late fees are recorded on your credit report and will lower your scores.

Snyder advises, "It's best not to co-sign for anyone. Loan them cash, not your credit."

Mistake 17: The appearance of a collection account on your credit report lowers your credit scores. Paying the balance will not increase your scores. In fact, the author warns that even if you pay the balance of the collection amount after it appears on your credit reports, it will continue to lower your scores

for up to 7 years. He suggests negotiating with the lender to remove the account as part of the settlement, thereby increasing scores significantly.

Mistake 18: People hear about home equity loans and think they are like having a checking account against which you can borrow at any time. But there are really two kinds: a home equity loan and home equity line of credit (HELOC) and the differences are subtle but important.

A home equity loan is safer because it is considered as an installment trade line, while a HELOC may report as a revolving debt, which can hurt scores if you carry it with a high balance. Opt for a home equity loan.

Mistake 25: Increasing your credit limits is one of the fastest and easiest ways to increase your credit scores, according to Snyder. He notes that when your limits go up

and your spending patterns remain the same, a smaller percentage of your combined credit limits gets used, thus increasing your scores. Ask your lenders for higher limits twice a year.

Mistake 27: If you're planning to buy a home or refinance your existing one, don't apply for any other credit until after you close on the house or refinance application.

Before shopping for a mortgage, major credit card or a car, Snyder cautions you to ask specific questions about what the lender needs to get you approved.

■ What credit reporting agencies do they use in making a decision?
■ What are the minimum scores for you to get approved at the best rate?
■ And how does what the "little bugaboos" we all fear affect their lending decisions?
Snyder ends the column with, "May you attain all your scores over 750."

Ken Ball is a loan officer at Capital and can be reached at 604-0320 or ken@gtgcapital.com

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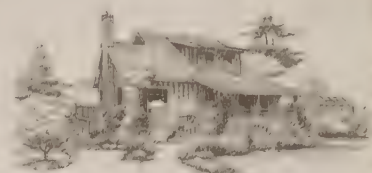
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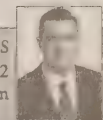
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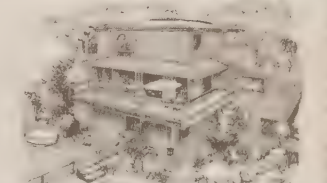
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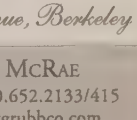
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Reid

FROM PAGE B3

provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. Topics cover power tools, concrete work, retrofitting, plumbing, interior design, carpentry and solar electricity, to name only a few. You can call the center for class information and cost. Contact **Sydney** at 510-525-7610 or visit the Website at blgdeduct.org.

RE/Max Speak

In order to serve non-English speaking home buyers and sellers RE/Max launched RE Translate on its website. Information is available in 13 languages, by clicking on a country's flag. Agents will be able to use this tool to maximize their business. Check it out at www.remax-cahi.com or www.remax-california.com.

Homeowner Help

Homeownership help is out there. Many cities conduct programs for first time homebuyers. Down payment and closing cost assistance is possible as long as funds are available. To find out what your city offers check with your nearest Realtor.

Free Classes

Seller Class. Home sellers can learn to avoid costly mistakes at the "Home Selling Revelations Workshop". This free session is 7 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16, at The Real Estate Consulting Center. E-mail reservations to seminars@realestateconsulting-center.com.

Public Servants. Police officers, nurses, firefighters and teachers are there for our communities when needed. Frequently these helpers cannot afford to buy a home. A seminar, "First Homes: Helping The Helpers" is 7 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 11. To learn more contact Realtor **Jonathan Fleming** of RE/Max at 866-565-0432 or jfleming@pacbell.net.

Class Series. "Our Home Team Advantage" (a group of professionals from home mortgage, insurance, title and real estate are teaming up to offer a series of homebuying seminars. The presenters are from Wells Fargo, Gallagher & Lindsey Realtors and Placer Title Company. The seminars will cover First-time, Next, Home Dressing and Investment buying. Each attendee receives a free credit report and gift. Ask about the date for the next class by calling 510-865-4192 ext. 300.

COLE CLASSES

Veteran coach and trainer **Kitty Cole** offers several classes for Realtors. You can get the listing, handle buyers and gain presentation skills. Classes are offered in Berkeley, Pleasanton and Fremont. Register for August classes by calling 925-254-1900 or use e-mail at www.kittybiz.com.

RE/MAX RETIREES

There's good news for retiring RE/Max agents. In response to a growing number of requests, RE/Max International has created the RE/Max Alumni Program. As an alumnus, former associates can attend conventions, enjoy supplier discounts and retain some of the other benefits. Check it out at www.remax.net.

ETHICS COURSE

Don't forget the National Association of Realtors ethics class requirement. Realtors are reminded to complete a refresher a two-and-a-half hour training course at least once every four years. The course stresses familiarity with the Code of Ethics and also an understanding of how the code applies to your business. Contact your local association for class information. Additionally, Realtor.org offers a free, online course.

TIDBITS

■ Financial Title Company Alameda County Sales Manager **Staci Neves** announced new team members. **Kim Sanders** will cover Oakland and Northern Alameda County. **Lorrie Williams** now handles Albany, Berkeley and Kensington. Call Sanders at 510-502-7998 and Williams at 510-393-2993.

■ Former East Bay Realtor **Ann Maurice** is an international TV star. Once a Piedmont resident, she stars in "House Doctor", a British television program. Each episode portrays Maurice transforming a tough to sell home into a quick sale at the asking price. The program also airs in Scotland and on BBC America.

TELL ME

Tell me about it! Fund-raisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to bobbiefeld@mindspring.com.

**PLEASE RECYCLE
THIS NEWSPAPER.**

Life goes on: Isabel's story

Number 341 In a series of true experiences in real estate

We met Isabel many months before she sold the house that she and her husband had bought 60 years before. Alone now, she had made the decision to move close to her sister and her husband, Ann and Bud. But first the accumulation of possessions in Isabel's house would have to be dealt with.

It was a lot. Isabel knew this — and yet, she didn't. Her main worry at the start was what to do with the contents of her husband's several workshops. Neatly organized but extensive, tools and machinery, hoists and saws, an old treadle sewing machine and much, much more filled the large basement, garage and shed.

We looked at it and said, "Wow," and we were only looking at the first layer. So many more things were stowed in cupboards and drawers and under workbenches.

Isabel and friends contacted people who buy tools. Family members selected items they wanted. Finally a sale was organized and, over a weekend, a lot of things were purchased and removed.

But much remained. For many days, Isabel and Ann and Bud sorted through and boxed what would be given to charity. They hired a hauler to take more away.

It was about this time that Isabel's niece, Nina, came from her home in Oregon to help. Thank goodness for Nina who threw her able self into assisting her aunt in every way she could. For six weeks, Nina directed the action. Closets were gone through, things tossed and recycled. China was packed, antiques were set aside for family. Together, Nina and Isabel looked at all of the Christmas decorations, sheets and towels, pots and baking pans. Bud and Ann, as always, helped too.

When we put the house on the market, it looked tidy and relatively spare. There was a lot of interest in the house and it was sold to a young couple who would allow Isabel some time after the sale closed to finish packing and moving.

As Ann and Bud live in a trailer park in Union City, Isabel had arranged for a space there and had made a deposit on a new manufactured home (which, we learned, is what "trailers" are called these days). Isabel showed us the floor plan; this "trailer" was large: two bedrooms and a plus room, large kitchen, two baths. She got to choose the paint and counter colors and carpets. If only it was ready when the salesman promised, everything would go smoothly.

It wasn't ready. "It will be soon," Isabel was told a number of times, but it took so long that in the end, Isabel was going to have her belongings moved into storage. She'd keep some of her clothes and other things with her and stay with Ann and Bud until she could take possession of her new home.

The movers came and took all of the furniture, lamps, bedding, boxes of belongings to storage.

That afternoon we went by Isabel's to see how she was doing. The plan was to clear out the house completely the next day.

Ann and Bud were there and we asked who was going to box up and move the rest of the stuff. "We are," they chimed, smiling.

Many things remained in the kitchen. Just in case they wanted to prepare a meal there, they'd kept out a few dishes, some pots and pans, knives and the like. There was still quite an assortment of packaged foods in the cupboards; the refrigerator was fairly full, the freezer jammed.

In her sewing room, Isabel's sewing patterns, threads and scissors, some old magazines she was saving, and the entire contents of her desk remained. In every closet there were still a few things: extension cords, throw rugs, hats and clothes, laundry basket.

The living and dining room drapes still hung at the windows.

They were to be taken down and put somewhere until Isabel could use them again. The basement too still held brooms and rags, rakes — miscellaneous items.

We offered, while we were there, to take down the drapes. Isabel went off to find some strips of cloth to tie the pleats together. Bud was busy rehanging a gate that the movers had removed. Ann packed sewing supplies. Between us, we got the drapes tied neatly and hung over hangers. They were bulky and would take up a lot of space in Bud's car.

These dear people are all three in their 80s. Cheery and willing though they are, we were becoming alarmed that they were not up to their task. We asked how were they planning to transport themselves and everything else to Union City? They said they'd have to make a couple of trips.

"We think you should consider renting a truck," we said. And, we



TARPOFF AND TALBERT
True Experiences

added that it would be a good idea to call another of Isabel's nieces who had kindly offered her time.

Moving is just so big. Everyone, regardless of age or how many times they've moved, seems to underestimate what is involved. There was still so much to deal with in Isabel's house. We could see that it was going to take a lot of time, a lot of carrying, a lot of space to get

all that remained out of the house. To their great credit, these sweet people were patient and smiling. They were sure that everything would be fine. But to rent a truck the next day, a niece came with her van. Still, by the time they got the foil-wrapped packages, freezer, three vehicles were at capacity.

They had made their move. They were very tired indeed. Suppose, they still needed to get the frozen food before coming to bed. Unloading the truck came

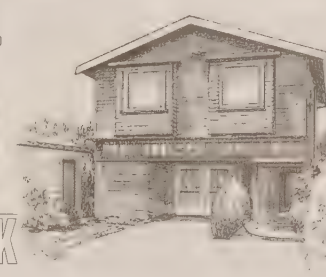
Pat Talbert and Anne Tarpoff are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 853-4444 or www.tarpoftalbert.com.

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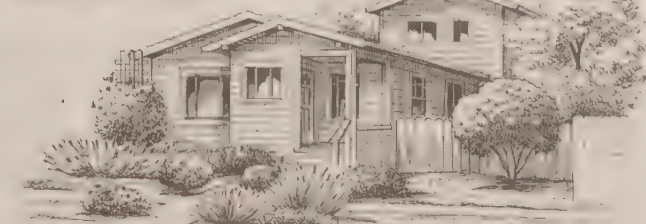
1415 Alcatraz Avenue, Berkeley \$795,000
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Great craftsmanship, industrial style, inspired use of space and materials in each unit. **pictured above** Owner-built live-work space with incredible ground-floor studio & bath, 1+Br/1Ba living area above. **not shown** Separate building with single-story 2Br/1Ba unit, & non-conforming 2-story studio unit. **more info 510.848.1950 x238** photos at www.thornwallproperties.com

Listed by **LEE GOODWIN** [leeberkeley@yahoo.com]
and **TRACY DAVIS** [tadkt@pacbell.net] **THORNWALL PROPERTIES**

691 McLaughlin @ Clinton

Clean and Sweet



\$460,000

Richmond View. A nice big yard. A play structure. Three bedrooms (two small, one lg master suite w/private bath) Sunny family room w/fireplace, sliding doors to deck & yard.

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4601 Manila Ave.

Temescal Craftsman



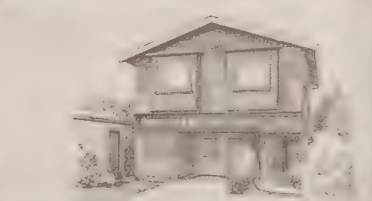
\$599,000

2 bedroom 1920's charmer
Lovely details, garage/workshop,
Landscaped garden/patio, formal dining plus eat-in kitchen

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Well located with three bedrooms, two baths, large lot, and family room with fireplace.

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4601 Manila Ave \$599,000

2 bedroom 1920's charmer. Lovely details, garage/workshop, formal dining + eat-in kitchen.

1234 Delaware \$579,000

Serene contemporary with soaring ceilings. Two story, master bedroom, large fenced yard.

2550 Dana St. 2E Berkeley \$250,000

Senior (55+) co-op with enclosed lanai, generous 1 bedroom, lovely common area.

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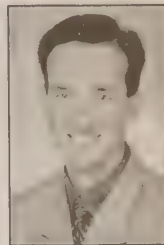
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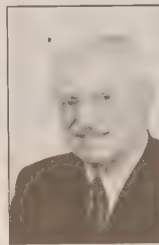
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3BR/3BA. Views of SF & the Golden Gate. Elegant, striking architecture w/ materials including granite, marble, limestone, cherry floors & cabinets. Huge media room. Family room adjoins sleek w/ 3 tpics. Home office. Level lawn.
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(510)339-8900



Orinda
\$2,800,000 **Call**
6BR/4BA. Main level has Italian marble & Rose Quartz fireplaces. Gourmet kit. has maple cabinets & Italian marble flrs. Oversized pool, pool house w/ kit, sauna, gymnasium, & game room.
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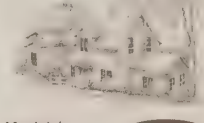
Montclair
\$1,295,000

3BR/2.5BA. Sophisticated design & quality finishes coalesce in this impressive contemporary home. Expansive living room/dining w/ 2-way frpic, family room, master suite w/ luxurious bath & separate office. Stylish, recently completed in-law quarters in excess of 1000 sq. ft. of living space.

6845 Oakwood Dr.
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Alameda
Price On Request **Soon**
5BR/5BA. This mansion includes a 2 BR/2BA, Au Pair, garage, hardwood floors, superb kitchen, & lovely garden with spa. While the period details are gorgeously intact, the home has every modern convenience.
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Montclair
\$850,000 **Open**
4BR/2BA. Feels like a country retreat but just mins to Montclair Village, Lake Temescal & hwy. Expanded in the '90's. Level yard "Great Room" frpic. Hdwds, skate frpic, space for a workshop.
301 Capitcom Ave.
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Hiller Highlands
\$829,000
3BR/2.5BA. This sparkling Hiller townhouse has a spectacular bridge, Bay and City Views. The private slate floor garden is a pure design. Cathedral ceilings, updated kitchen and sunny deck reflect easy living and entertaining.
(510)339-8900



Montclair
\$799,000 **Pending**
3BR/2BA. Storybook creek-side beauty! Terrific renovation. Picturesque deck, gorgeous frpic, hwdw flrs & beamed ceilings. Potential mstr BR w/ completion of 3rd bath. Tranquil, yet close to everything.
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Oakland
\$799,000 **Invest**
One 3BR/2BA w/ 1 car gar + carport. Second house w/ 2BR/1BA w/ 1 car gar. 4 apartment units in rear, each with 2BR/1BA. Off street parking. Investor's delight! Well kept property. All units currently rented.
(925) 314-1500



Maxwell Park
\$569,000 **Open**
3BR/1BA + In-law. Enjoying Maxwell Park starter. LR/DR combo with built-ins. Gorgeous hwdw flrs., nicely upgraded kit., detach gar w/ indry & storage rm. 1BR in-law w/ separate entry. Great for 1st time buyers!
2754 Kingsland Ave.
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Oakland/Bella Vista
\$649,000
3BR/1BA. Lovingly restored craftsman! Newly painted inside & out, gleaming hardwoods, charming breakfast nook off mt. Excellent floor plan w/ large BR's. New landscaping & detached garage.
1136 E. 33rd Street
Open Sun 2-4:30PM
(510)339-8900



Maxwell Park
\$495,000 **Pending**
3BR/2BA. Darling bungalow with re-done kitchen on main floor, with 2BR's, separate lower floor with third BR family room, rec room with wet bar and bonus room. Lovely front garden in full bloom!
(510)339-8900



Maxwell Park
\$449,000 **Pending**
2BR/1BA. A warm and inviting bungalow. Private yard w/ separate office space and lovely landscaping.
(510)339-8900



Oakland
\$2,300/mo. **Lease**
2BR/2BA. Enjoy the summer on the 52' terrace w/ panoramic view of Lake Merritt & East Bay Hills. Co-op has floor to ceiling windows opening to terrace. "White glove" building w/ 24 hr doorman service.
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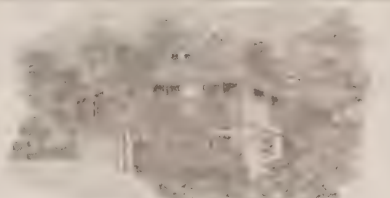
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Unique, 3br/2ba home with a 1br/1ba in-law unit. Cook's kitchen in center for great entertaining flow. Delightful setting, on half an acre of redwood grove with a creek. Decks on five sides. Sports court with lighting. Minutes from Orinda BART & I-80.

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Spacious El Cerrito Hills home with panoramic Bay, City, and 2-Bridge Views. Spacious, open floor plan offering 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Updated kitchen and baths. Deck off the living room perfect for outdoor entertaining. Detached 2-car garage with potential office space. All situated on an oversized lot.

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117 W Richmond Avenue,
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Montclair \$1,190,000
Brand New Contemporary Home. Gorgeous 4 bedrooms with an office and 4.5 baths. Bright and airy living room w/ Anderson doors to front deck. Gourmet kitchen, cooking island, pantry. Spacious 2-car garage with ample storage.

2630 Mountain Blvd. Open Sun 2-4
Nic Tang 527-9111



El Sobrante \$789,000
Unique, delightful 3-bedroom, 2-bath home plus a 1-bedroom, 1-bath in-law unit on just over 1/2 acre. Imagine your own redwood grove with a creek running through. Decks on 5 sides for enjoying the outdoors. Lighted sports court. Minutes from Orinda BART & I-80.

221 Amend Ct. Open Sun 1-4
Doris Alexander 527-9111



El Cerrito \$649,000
This charming 1922 bungalow has been tastefully expanded to 3BR/2.5 bath home. Near Albany border near parks, shops, BART. Overlooks verdant garden w/large covered deck & gazebo. Many upgrades include: kitchen, new roof, cherry floors, air-conditioning.

537 Albemarle St. Open Sun 2-4
Barbara Kaplan 527-9111



El Cerrito \$618,000
Traditional with Bay views. Two bedrooms, 1.5 baths, family room and sun porch. Freshly painted interior, gorgeous oak floors, 2 fireplaces, large garage and workshop. Room to expand. Convenient to BART, El Cerrito Plaza and Solano shops.

509 Sea View Dr. Open Sun 2-4:30
Celia Concus 524-0800



Richmond View \$599,000
FABULOUS WILDCAT CANYON LIVING! Spacious house accessible to miles of horse trails & walking paths. Huge country kitchen. 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, plus den. Beautiful grassy yard.

6039 Park Ave. Open Sun 2-4
Juliana Wynberg 527-2700x31



El Cerrito \$579,000
Elegant Mid-Century Home. Updated 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, fireplace, built-in bookshelves & cabinets. Meticulously cared-for w/Craftsman artistry & attention to detail. On quiet cul-de-sac.

1320 Gayle Ct. Open Sun 2-4
Melissa Eizenberg 524-0800



San Pablo \$539,000
Appealing, well-maintained 3BR, 3 bath home in peaceful "country" setting. Beautiful SF view from living room. New paint and newly polished hardwood floors. Two decks, very private 3-level yard great for entertaining. Close to Alvarado Park, Wildcat Canyon, hiking trails.

1519 Bayo Vista Contact Agent
Bonnie Scott 231-1640



Richmond/El Sobrante \$495,000
Spacious three bedroom, two bath home on quiet cul-de-sac. Big yard, move-in condition and great location!

4848 Morwood Dr. Open Sun 2-4
Marni Fischer & Jean Shrem 527-9111



Richmond N&E \$439,000
Three bedroom, 1 bath home with lots of appeal. New carpeting & freshly painted inside & out, with dual-pane windows and great floor plan. Step out to the covered patio & see a mature garden blooming w/lovely flowers. Ready to be lived in & enjoyed. Minutes to Highway 80, shopping.

3433 Rheem Ave. Open Sun 2-4
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PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



211 CROCKER AVENUE \$2,500,000
This beautifully redesigned home has all the vintage charm & character plus the amenities of new construction w/luxurious master suite, fabulous gourmet kitchen & inviting level garden. Mindy Scott



1400 OAKLAND AVENUE \$1,295,000
Spacious traditional home located in central Piedmont. Gracious formal rooms, updated eat-in kitchen, 3+BR up & rumpus room down. Master suite with French doors to the beautiful gardens. Mindy Scott



134 RICARDO AVENUE \$1,175,000
Feast your eyes on this stylish traditional 3BR/2BA home located a half block away from Dracena Park, featuring an updated kitchen/family room with French doors leading to the garden. Mavis Delacroix



1555 GRANDVIEW DR. \$3,750,000
Magnificent new Mediterranean w/breathtaking panoramic view. 5BR, elevator, large family room, game room, media room, library, wine cellar & sauna. Three-car garage. Mary Merrick

5801 BUENA VISTA AVE. \$1,795,000
Exquisite Mediterranean w/many architectural details. French doors to a charming patio. 4BR/3.5BA. Lower level family room w/fireplace opens to a second patio & garden. Bay views. Jean Simmons



83 CASTLE PARK WAY \$1,395,000
Feel like you are on vacation everyday in this stunning contemporary w/views. Open floor plan, pool, spa & sauna. 3+BR/3+BA. Entertain in style. Anne Feste

OAKLAND OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



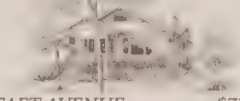
8 DOROTHY PLACE \$1,295,000
Wonderful Tudor (c. 1996) on a level lot w/Bay & Mt. Tamalpais views. 4BR/3BA. Incredible new kitchen and bath. Easy commute. A must see! Debra J. Dryden



6194 MAZUELA DRIVE \$1,295,000
A stunning contemporary. Cherry hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen & open family room w/fireplace. All bedrooms have SF, Golden Gate & Bay Bridge views. Carol Brown



842 CREED ROAD \$795,000
Handsome traditional. 3BR/1.5BA, full of architectural details & charm. Hardwood floors & French doors in the rear bedrooms open to deck & garden. Anthony Riggins



5533 TAFT AVENUE \$729,000
Heart of Rockridge. This charming craftsman style shingle home is perfectly situated in the heart of Rockridge on one of the neighborhood's most coveted tree-lined streets, just steps away from College Ave. Carolyn Jones

55 CHADBOURNE WAY \$649,000
Crestmont with great Bay view. Needs some TLC! One-level. 3+BR/2BA. Plus space with many possibilities. Hardwood floors, nice light and a level sunny garden. Michael Friedman

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



136 PANORAMIC WAY \$1,375,000
Light-filled 3+BR/2.5BA hillside retreat. Dramatic architecture, Bay & hill views & wonderful indoor/outdoor flow to decks & serene gardens. The Ratcliffes

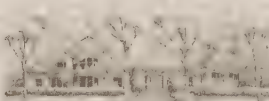
635 SAN FERNANDO AVE. \$895,000
This classic 3BR/2.5BA inviting home boasts many rich details, warm wood trim work, built-ins, large formal room, & gorgeous garden. Near Solano Ave. Anne Van Dyke

1011 KEITH AVENUE \$725,000
A romantic view home featuring 3BR/2BA, two fireplaces & family room w/kitchenette. This large property offers tranquil gardens, elaborate stone paths & separate meditation hut. Bebe McRae



1564 ALLSTON WAY \$575,000
This unusual property is truly a tropical paradise! Remodeled 2BR/1BA. Great indoor/outdoor living. Fabulous kitchen. Special garden & patio. Susie Schevill

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT



SEA VIEW \$8,185,000
On one of the most beautiful private gardens in the Bay Area sits a grand neo-classic Willis Polk estate. Wonderful feeling of style and elegance with spacious formal rooms and fine architectural details. Angela Wei Grubb

BERKELEY COMPOUND \$5,000,000
BERKELEY. Historic compound w/5 residences, 2 large lots, spectacular views & magnificent gardens! Main house & 3 townhouses could be sold separately from adjacent property. Bebe McRae



GREEK REVIVAL \$3,700,000
Fabulous traditional in prime location near schools. Exquisite detailing. Spacious gourmet kitchen & adjacent family room. Beautifully landscaped gardens. Vistas of the Bay. Anian Pettit Tunney

BERKELEY VILLA \$1,900,000
Modern Villa beautifully nestled on Panoramic Hill! 3BR/2.5, gourmet kitchen/family room, attached 3-car garage! Bay views, lush gardens, and maximum privacy! Bebe McRae/Paul Templeton

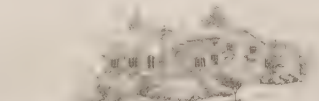


ONE-OF-A-KIND \$1,750,000
Extraordinary one-of-a-kind farmhouse in a private setting! Completely gated & fenced on an oversized lot! Beautifully landscaped! 3BR/2.5BA. Tilden views. Susie Schevill

SPECTACULAR VIEWS \$1,265,000
Spectacular view home in central Piedmont. Ideal floorplan. Rumpus, family room, loggia leading to private level garden. 3BR/2.5BA. Two-car garage. Jean Simmons



CHARMING & SPECIAL \$985,000
KENSINGTON. Level-in to this special charm & out to wonderful gardens! 4BR/2BA, excellent condition & artistry throughout! Located close to a superior public elementary school. Bebe McRae



BERKELEY DUPLEX \$875,000
BERKELEY. Golden Duplex - side by side units near UC, Berkeley Rose Garden, Codornices Park, shops & restaurants. 3BR/1BA & 2BR/1BA. Bebe McRae



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$769,000
OAKLAND. THIS all-level contemporary home has been lovingly renovated & maintained. Entertain in the "great room" w/hill outlooks & hardwood floors. Modern kitchen/family room w/fireplace & French doors to the garden. 3BR incl. master suite. Mavis Delacroix



CLASSIC CRAFTSMAN \$725,000
OAKLAND. Bathed in sunlight, this classic 3+BR/1BA Craftsman features hill views & hardwood floors. Great location near Oakland's Rose Garden. Mavis Delacroix

BELLEVUE-STATEN \$625,000
OAKLAND. Elegant & sophisticated 2BR/2BA condominium in art-deco landmark treasure. Lake Merritt views, parquet floors, exquisite details, fireplace & updated kitchen. Elevator. 24-hr doorman. Tricia Swift



NO. BERKELEY DUPLEX \$650,000
BERKELEY. INVESTMENT opportunity! Duplex property close to North Berkeley BART. Street level unit: 3BR/1BA, patio; Upper unit 1BR/1BA; 3 garage spaces. Call listing agent for appointment. Tricia Swift



OAKLAND HILLS \$599,000
OAKLAND. Nicely updated ranch in the Oakland Hills. 3+BR/2BA w/detached room. New paint, roof, refinished floors. Spacious w/nice flow. Michael Friedman



DIMOND JEWEL \$579,000
OAKLAND. Stylish, charming split-level home w/modern systems (incl. air conditioning). Amazing deep gardens. 2BR + family room. Garage w/inside access and a great kitchen too. Katherine Cooper



CRAFTSMAN JEWEL \$549,000
BERKELEY. Enchanting Edwardian! Light-filled & spacious w/original details. New kitchen & bathroom. Professional darkroom/office in garage. Large basement & private garden. Near BART. 2BR/1BA. Erika Celestre



GREAT BUNGALOW \$549,000
OAKLAND. Beautiful 2BR/1BA bungalow w/original architectural details, formal dining room, cooks kitchen, remodeled bath, lovely landscaping. The Ratcliffes

SWEET VICTORIAN \$529,000
OAKLAND. Excellent condition with huge front & rear gardens, double parlor w/fireplace, formal dining room, remodeled kitchen w/panty, low pest report & vibrant neighborhood. Carolyn Jones

BERKELEY BUNGALOW \$499,000
BERKELEY. Charming 3BR/1BA bungalow. Formal dining, sunny eat-in kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors, large garden. Near 4th St. shops & dining. Jill Carrigan

EASY, CAREFREE LIVING \$425,000
ALBANY. Nicely renovated. Bay views. 1+BR/2BA & dining area. Plenty of amenities in this complex (pool, tennis & more). Easy access to freeway & shops. Diane Verducci

ROSE GARDEN \$389,000
OAKLAND. A very attractive & spacious 1BR + den condominium in a great building near the Rose Garden. Upstairs unit w/views of the hills, fireplace & formal dining room. In-unit laundry. K. Buchholz/M. Lyons

KENSINGTON LOT \$1,700,000
Spectacular lot w/gorgeous views. Faye Keogh

GARDEN DR. LOT \$650,000
Exceptional Kensington building site w/view! Tricia Swift

MONTCLAIR LOT \$299,000
Moderate upslope lot w/plans. Carol Brown

When not to make a home purchase offer

■ Sometimes emotional anguish isn't worth the time

INMAN NEWS

Some real estate agents think that a home buyer should make an offer on any property they like, no matter what the odds are that their offer will be accepted. You'll never know if the seller will accept your offer unless you try. While this reasoning seems sound, it's not necessarily so. There are certain situations where you'll be better off if you don't make an offer.

For instance, let's say that you're trying to buy in a market where all the well-priced homes are selling with multiple offers. Your agent calls the listing agent to find out how many offers are being made on a property you like.

Your agent is told that 10 offers are expected. You can't even afford to pay the asking price. So, it's safe to assume that an offer below the asking price won't be accepted.

Even though your agent may encourage you to make an offer, it may not be worth it. It takes a lot of time and emotional energy to decide to make an offer. Then, you can spend hours drafting it. This is a big effort for an outcome that's easy to predict. Why put yourself through the anguish? Sit this one out and wait for a better opportunity.

Buyers who make offers over and over on listings that sell for significantly over their price range can suffer burn out. Then they give up and drop out of the market. For a positive experience, that is more likely to bring results, save your offers for the likely prospects.

Another time to reconsider your impulse to buy is when you're buying long distance. Buyers who are being transferred from one location to another often feel pressured to buy quickly in the new location.

Of course, you want to get settled as soon as possible. But, there's an alternative to buying. You could rent for awhile in the new location until you find the right house to buy. Although this requires moving twice, at least you will not buy the wrong house in haste. If you do, you could end up wanting to sell and buy again soon because you can't stand the house you're in.

HOUSE HUNTING TIP: Even if you're not transferring, you can put pressure on yourself to buy now for a number of reasons. When interest rates or rising home prices are rising, you may feel that if you don't buy now, you'll never have another chance. Or, perhaps you're splitting up with your spouse and you feel compelled to buy a new home for yourself. The need is understandable. But decisions made in haste are not necessarily sound decisions.

The Internet has made impulse buying easier than ever. You can preview listings virtually anywhere in the world on line. Many online listings come complete with a virtual or photo tour. Some buyers are relying on sketchy information about a property they find on the Internet to go ahead and buy without first visiting the property in person.

It's a mistake to let good marketing take the place of due diligence investigations. Photos tell you a lot about a property. But, photo tours aren't likely to show you the worst features, like the dilapidated house next door, the swamp in the backyard, or the view of cars



DIAN HYMER
House Hunting

Buyers who make offers over and over on listings that sell for significantly over their price range can suffer burn out. Then they give up and drop out of the market. For a positive experience, that is more likely to bring results, save your offers for the likely prospects.

whizzing by on the freeway that you see from the picture window in the living room. Photos tell you nothing about smells, like a musty odor that could indicate that the house has a mold problem.

THE CLOSING: As tempting as it might be to be done with the home buying process, it's usually not wise to buy without first visiting the property.

Dian Hymer can be reached at 510-339-4777 or by e-mail at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

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It's all in the details, and Rose Garden is full of them. This spectacular master-planned community of four distinct single-family home neighborhoods in Brentwood boasts seven neighborhood parks, scenic trails and a nearly four-acre central park that includes a rose garden, gazebo and swim center. Not only are the homes gracious and charming, featuring the latest wiring and high-tech building technologies, but each front yard comes immaculately landscaped with roses. All this, and a location within minutes of Marsh Creek trails, exciting new shops and fine schools. Visit soon and see why everything's coming up roses in Brentwood.



Rose Garden

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- Central rose garden park
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- Gazebo and picnic areas
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Thirty days to 'Sudden Success'

COLDWELL BANKER

Coldwell Banker's David Compton presents Thirty Days Sudden Success next Monday, Aug 8 from 1 to 4 p.m., at the Oakland Association of Realtors 1528 Webster St. in Oakland.

Compton has been in the real estate industry for over 30 years, including the last 10 as director of education for Coldwell Banker in Arizona. His workshop teaches agents how to build a predictable, thriving real estate practice by effectively optimizing their greatest assets.

"Experts say that the industry can't sustain the flood of new sales agents," Compton said. "The Sudden Success workshop is an absolute must for every new and seasoned agent determined to survive the storm."

Agents are invited to attend the event free of charge as guests of the Hills Publication Group. The course is approved for three hours of continuing education credits toward the renewal of Realtors licenses.

For reservations call the Kathleen Ward at 925-943-8312.

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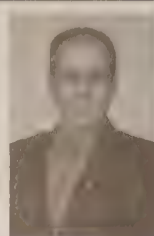
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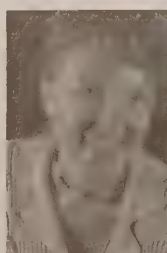
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What's your HKQ? That stands for Home Buying Knowledge Quotient. Did you know there is a lack of affordable housing, but a

new tax credit is proposed to help create more housing units? Will the FHA ever have a zero down payment product for borrowers?

Although the cost of financing remains historically low, housing prices continue to push higher. All indicators say do not put off a home purchase. If you want to buy a home, but this is your first time, do you know where to start?

Attend "How To Buy Your First Home." This free workshop is held at Homewood Suites, on the Em-

barcadero, in Oakland. The class is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 20.

Gain information targeted to help first-time homebuyers. Find out if you qualify for a loan and how much house you can afford. Hear about financing programs and homebuying strategies.

Knowledgeable professionals work as a team in order to provide information on all aspects of the home buying process.

Several members on the team

are bi-lingual and speak Chinese, Vietnamese and Tagalog. The workshop helps all buyers make the right decisions and could save them thousands.

Receive a free Homebuyer's Handbook, credit report and a gift. Stay after the workshop for a one-on-one consultation.

Bring a guest, but you must pre-register, as seating is limited.

Reserve a spot by calling 510-865-4192 ext. 300 or visit www.GallagherAndLindsey.com.

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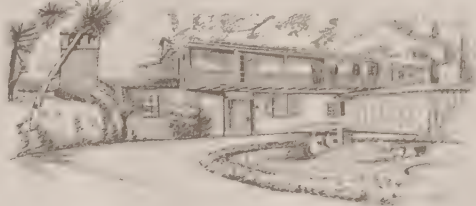
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140 Estates Dr., Piedmont
Sunday, 2-4:30pm



Incredible opportunity in great Piedmont location! Set off the street with a private drive, this 33,000+ square foot lot is home to a lovely 4+ BD, 4.5 BA 1933 Spanish Monterey Style Estate, with gorgeous gardens, flagstone paths, decks, patios, circular drive, pool and SF/Bay views. Vaulted wood beamed ceilings, plank hardwood floors, and incredible detailing throughout. Includes great room with fireplace, solarium, study with fireplace, formal dining room, huge kitchen, breakfast room, master bedroom suite with dressing area and sun room! Front veranda and gorgeous grounds perfect for indoor/outdoor entertaining!

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Condo quality. 15 units- 12 two bedroom units, 3 one bedroom units. Security building. Pride of ownership.

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26 Ramona Ave., Oakland
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This 3 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom California craftsman is completely updated, restoring it to its original traditional beauty. Hardwood floors, natural light, great floor plan, and superb detailing. Spacious living & dining room with fireplace and built in cabinetry. Level yards with lawns and patios and extra long drive with garage and separate office space! Right off of Piedmont Ave., within walking distance to everything!!!!

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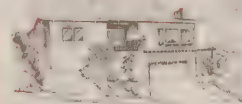
Open Homes



OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
Piedmont \$2,380,000
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1933 Spanish Monterey 4+ Bedroom, 4.5 Bath Piedmont Estate with SF/Bay views, private drive and 33,000+ square foot lot. Gorgeous grounds & pool! Nahid Nassiri 339.8400-339.4550



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OAKMORE (UPPER) \$929,000
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OAKMORE \$829,000
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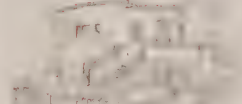
OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
ADAMS POINT \$749,000
379 STATEN AVENUE
Custom duplex with lots of original details, 2/1, 1/1, big basement & yard, lots of potential, walk to lake. Call today. Arnold Muller 339.4000



OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
OAKMORE AREA \$679,000
4021 LYMAN ROAD
Bright spacious traditional with cathedral beamed ceiling, hardwood floors, lots of windows. Level out to backyard. Split level to spacious bedrooms, formal DR. See photos and virtual tour at: PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400-482.9000



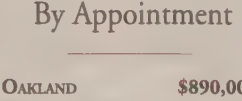
OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
Piedmont Avenue \$629,000
26 RAMONA AVENUE
3 Bedrooms, 1.5 baths California bungalow completely updated. Hardwood floors, natural light, great floor plan, and superb detailing. Walk to Piedmont Ave. Nahid Nassiri 339.8400-339.4550



OPEN SUN 1-4:00 P.M.
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Charming traditional home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Many updates in 2001 including kitchen and bath. Rumpus room, nice yard, attached garage. See photos at: SueCaro.com 339.8400-339.4284



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Commercial



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OAKLAND
2533 BROADWAY STREET
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OAKLAND
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3 New Listings

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<p>Sunday 2-5 25 Portsmouth Rd, Piedmont. 4BR/2.5BA. Fabulous kitchen, family room, offices, great yard. David & Claire (510) 428-0900</p>	<p>Sunday 2-4 956 Arlington, Berkeley. New Priced 4BR/2+BA w/potential in-law. Library, sun room, large rms. Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900</p>	<p>Sunday 1-4 453 McAuley St., Oakland. Rockridge 3BD/2BA w/non-conforming in-law. Roy Grigsby (510) 845-0211</p>	<p>Sunday 2-4 2924 Hittiges Ave., Berkeley. Lovely, charming 2+condo in the heart of Elmhurst. Denise Milburn (510) 868-1400 x 1418</p>	<p>Sunday 2-5 370 Oakland Ave., Oakland. 2+BR/1BA Cute Bungalow 1BR/1BA unit. Also Sat Open 2-5. Jake McTigue (510) 868-1400</p>
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PIEDMONT

Sunday 2-5
84 Cambrian. 5BR/5.5BA, 4148 living sq ft, move-in ready.
Scott Thompson (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4:30
280 Wildwood. 3+BR/1+BA 2-story beauty. Remodeled. Yard, patio, lg rms, hwdw flrs, frml DR.
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900

OAKLAND

Sat and Sun 2-5
5747 Buena Vista. Lovely 5+BR/3.5 BA traditional with ideal level-in floor plan.
Held Marchessotti (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5
6036 Contra Costa Rd. Exquisite 4+BD/4BA, park access, lake views.
Lola Harris (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30
174 Alta Road. Light-filled 3+BR/2.5BA. Almost Company Mediterranean.
Held Marchessotti (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1-3
5870 Moraga Ave. 2BR/1.5BA home, upgraded kitchen, Spanish courtyard, 2 pkg. plus.
(415) 921-0113

Sunday 2-5
2842 Burton Dr. 3BR/2.5BA 2+rms, bay view, cook's kitchen near park, Seel, Ted Normant
(510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-5
321 Perkins St. Spacious Home near Lake Merritt, finish basement.
Marilyn Trish (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30
1415 Barrows. Probate 2BR/1BA fixer w/ original details in Treble Glen.
Janet Flint (510) 339-9290

Sat and Sun 12-6
6865 Garvin Dr. Dramatic 3BR/2BA Montclair contemporary!
Pink Johnson (510) 339-9290

Oakland-Rockridge
5508 Broadway. Charming 3BD/1.5BA craftsman w/landscaped back yard.
Brian Santilena (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-5
4965 Desmond. 2+BR/1BA w/great details, new kitchen near BART.
Anita Becker (510) 868-1554

Sat and Sun 2-4
3319 Magnolia St. Spacious loft, 3 levels, 2BD/2BA, yard, deck, pond.
Deb Graceffa (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4
5209 Fairfax Ave. 3BR/1BA lots of space. Loads of possibilities!
Deborah Williams (510) 337-8670

Sat & Sun 2-5
5832 Morse St. Charming Millsmont bungalow, 2BD/1BA, LR, DR, yard.
Deb Graceffa (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4:30
2236 108th Ave. Great starter, 2+BR/1BA, good condition!
Tara Banks (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-4:30
826 Aileen. Very nice, spacious 2BR/1BA home! Probate sale! 1st open!
Felicia Owens (510) 339-9290

Big House
Big rooms. 4BD/1.5BA, formal dining room, eat-in kit plus rm needs TLC.
Lala Logene Butler (510) 868-1410

Sunday 2-4:30
1745-67th Ave. Bright, beautiful 2BR/1BA bungalow. New listing!
Doug Fuller (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-4:30
250 Montecito #203. Striking, sophisticated, updated 1+BR/1BA condo.
Johnwesleyrealtor.com (510) 339-9290

Sunday 2-5
2740 68th Ave. 2BR/2BA, FP, basement, garage, new roof.
Hamid Grinage (510) 834-2010

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4
450 S. 29th St. Richmond. 3BR/2BA plus den, spacious sep dine, hwdw flrs, fenced yard, fireplace.
Cynthia Johnson (510) 868-1400

PACIFICA

Sunday 1-4
709 Imperial. Lovely 5BR/3BA in great area, completely upgraded.
Demetrius Wilson (510) 834-2010

RESIDENTIAL INCOME

Berkeley 8 Units
Gorgeous 8 units w/all 2BR/1BA. Very nice location & income.
Anna Li (510) 527-9800

Sunday 2-4
215 Altha, Oakland. Victorian triplex/China H. w/2 non-conforming units, inc. 62K plus.
Kathy Dittmer (510) 428-0900

Sunday 1-4
59 Hamilton, Oakland. Brown shingle triplex. Quiet st. nr Lk Merritt/BART, own occ/invest
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4
1411-1413 Alcatraz, Berkeley. Well maintained sunny 4-plex on huge lot. Carport hwdw flr, gated.
Caroline Sotemaker de Brune (510) 868-1454

Sunday 2-5
469 McAuley St., Oakland. Duplex, vacant, 2BR/1BA, LR/DR/Kit/Laundry, new paint.
Scott Thompson (510) 428-0900

Beware of high closing costs

BY MARSHALL LOEB
MARKETWATCH

Whether you're buying a new home or refinancing, closing costs will hit you at the end of the transaction.

Many buyers who have focused their attention on their down payment have been surprised and unprepared for miscellaneous closing costs, sometimes as high as 4 percent to 5 percent of the purchase price.

Make sure that you receive several closing-cost estimates from your real estate agent or broker during your process of buying a home. This way you can keep track of how much extra cash you'll need to have on hand before making an offer.

Make sure that you receive several closing-cost estimates from your real estate agent or broker during your process of buying a home. This way you can keep track of how much extra cash you'll need to have on hand before making an offer.

You can also get estimates from online Closing Cost Estimate Calculators at Web sites such as www.ESL.com, the Eastman Savings and Loan Association's Federal Credit Union, or www.Mortgage-Investments.com.

Closing costs can be broken down into three basic categories, according to www.Bankrate.com:

Lender/broker fees: Administration, application, commitment, document preparation, funding, mortgage broker or lender, processing, tax service, underwriting, wire transfer.

Third-party fees: Appraisal, attorney or settlement, credit report, flood certification, pest and other inspections, postage/courier, survey, title insurance, title work.

Government fees: Recording, city/county/state tax.

Understanding these fees and having an up-to-date estimate will make you more confident of going ahead with the purchase of your new home.

You can then pay your lending agent all the closing costs and you'll be given a settlement statement, which lists all the items for which you've paid. Your mortgage will then be recorded in the state's (or county's) Registry of Deeds.

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Tere Lee, CRS
Team Leader

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SAN LEANDRO

172 OAKES BLVD.
2+BD/1BA. Approx. 1700sf Craftsman-style single level home on an oversized lot, formal dining rm, family rm (previous 3rd bdrm), converted garage (shop/rec rm) office, sun porch, lots of sunlight.
Asking Price: \$619,000

Open Sat. & Sun., 8/6, 8/7, 1-4pm
2510 GALLERIE PLACE
3 BD/2.5 BA. At Marina Seagate, adj. to Monarch Bay Golf Course, pool, spas, tennis courts-eat-in kitchen, dining area - decorator touches - 1 garage & 1 carport.
Asking Price: \$510,000

PENDING
14453 FLAGSHIP ST.
at Marina Seagate
Attached 2-car garage, vaulted ceilings, many upgrades, immaculate, bright & beautiful, move-in condition!
\$530,000

PENDING
14443 KINGS CT.
3 BD/1.5 BA. Two car garage, two story townhouse at Parkway Crest - many decorator upgrades, newer carpet, lovely garden area, pool & sauna in the complex. \$388,000

HAYWARD
OPEN SUN, 8/7, 1-4 PM
29423 MIDDLEBOROUGH WAY
2 BD/2 BA Mobile Home in beautiful community of New England Village. Well-maintained. A must see.
\$99,000

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14164 Outrigger Dr. • SOLD

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EL CERRITO

SPECTACULAR PANORAMIC VIEWS \$825,000
8535 Betty Lane. 3BR including Master suite 2BA all on main level, with large downstairs basement. Wonderful remodeled kitchen with Granite countertops, gorgeous Random Plank Hardwood floors, huge lot over 12,000 sq. ft., tile roof, new int. & ext. paint, enclosed sun porch, double fireplace, circular driveway w/2 car attached garage w/int. access.
www.geristern.com Open Sun 2-4:30 510-662-8469

RICHMOND VIEW

RICHMOND VIEW BEAUTY \$458,988
5101 Esmond. 3BR 1BA Updated kitchen with a gas stove, attic, and lots of storage. Charming backyard with patio and fruit trees. Front yard has a patio as well.
www.cynthiaburke.com Open Sun 1-4 510-517-3326

STEP INTO PARADISE \$489,988
920 Yuba St. 2BR 1BA Oak plank floors, Great views! Hothouse, detached studio & garden house, full bodied succulents, colorful flowers, fruit trees, and organic garden.
www.cynthiaburke.com Open Sun 1-4 510-517-3326

SPECTACULAR S.F. & BAY VIEWS! \$498,988
6098 Ralston Ave. 2+BR 3BA. Surrounded by organic gardens, this mini-estate has endless charms & uses, including a potential in-law. Also has a hot tub and hammock, 2 decks, a garden house and extra storage. Minutes from Wildcat Canyon. Indoor-outdoor living at its best!
www.cynthiaburke.com Open Sun 1-4 510-517-3326

RICHMOND ANNEX
CHARMING SPLIT LEVEL ON CORNER LOT \$479,000
6001 Columbia. 2BR 1BA updated kitchen w/tile, hardwood floors, remodeled bath, 2 car att. garage w/int. access, new ext. paint, charming backyard!
Kevin Tannahill Open Sun 2-4 510-524-1112

CROCKER HIGHLANDS



Delightful Gardens

Beautiful 1925 Mediterranean features elegant living room with marble fireplace, built in shelves & French doors to patio & garden, formal dining room, light and stylish updated kitchen, 4 bedrooms and 1.5 baths. A charming home in move in condition with lovely architectural details and a fabulous level backyard and garden in a private setting!

Visit www.DoloresThom.com for photos & more information and to view all active East Bay listings.



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Offered at \$875,000



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- Adjacent Creek Promotes a Tranquil and Serene Setting.
- 2 Floor Home Features HWD Floors Throughout the Top Floor.
- Secluded Front Patio and 2-Car Garage.



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virtually all homes for sale in the Bay Area.

ORINDA \$2,500,000



Orinda Downs. Elegant 5000+-sf home, beautifully designed with a renovated gourmet kitchen and luxurious master bath. Panoramic views. Lovely decks and patio areas.

LAFAYETTE \$1,549,000



Great Location. Spectacular view home in Reliez Valley Highlands. Popular Briones model home with 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, den and bonus room. Immaculate, serene and private.

OAKLAND \$1,349,000



Estate-Style Living On 2.35+- Acres. Breathtaking Bay and Hill views from this custom estate-style 4+bd/3.5ba home on 2.35+- acres. Spacious single level and abundant level outdoor areas.

ORINDA \$1,249,000



Spectacular Custom Home. Custom home on 0.65+- acre, rebuilt in 2000, surrounded by panoramic views. Home offers 2882+-sf, 4bd/3ba, vaulted ceilings, gourmet kitchen, grass area.

OAKLAND \$669,000



Coming Soon. Rockridge Gem with many upgrades and amenities. 2bd/1ba, fireplace, hardwood floors. Landscaped front and back yard. Close to BART and Market Hall. A must see.

MORAGA \$629,000



Moraga Lifestyle. Very spacious and bright contemporary floor plan. Newer kitchen, formal DR and FR/kitchen combo. Inside laundry, FP, wet bar and outside patio. 1682+-sf of living space.

OAKLAND \$619,000



Enchanting Victorian Duplex. Just blocks from Piedmont Avenue shops. Spacious 3+bd/1ba unit and 2bd/1ba unit. Lots of old world charm and great details. Potential for owner's unit.

OAKLAND \$399,000



Very Cute Condo Alternative. Spacious home close to Glenview. Perfect set-up with 2bd/2ba, great kitchen and large back yard. Completely updated and is ideal for those on a small budget.

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Elite in Home Mortgage Services

Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide starting on B24.

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Crestmont mid-century Bay view home. This one level, three + bedroom, two bath home wants TLC! Bonus space with many possibilities. Hardwood floors, nice light, mostly level gardens. Now add your personal touches!

Offered at \$649,000

55 Chadbourne Way, Oakland

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GRUBBCO.COM

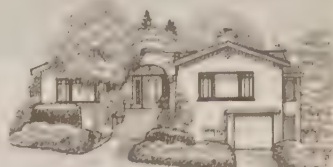
MICHAEL FRIEDMAN
Office: 510.339.0400/265
mfriedman@grubbco.com
FriedmanRealtor.com



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Fabulous Craftsman in covered Thousand Oaks! This classic three bedroom two and one half bath inviting home boasts many rich details, warm wood trim work, built-ins, gracious living room, formal dining room and gorgeous level garden. Expansion plans by noted architect Gary Parsons. Great location close to Solano Avenue and Shattuck Avenue's "Gourmet Ghetto".

Offered at \$895,000



635 San Fernando Avenue
Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

ANNE VAN DYKE
Office: 510.339.0400/399
avandyke@grubbco.com



sold sold

1061 Hubert Road, Oakland
Originally offered at \$1,049,000



JUDITH CAIN
Represented the Seller
510.339.0400/328
cain@grubbco.com

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

MINDY SCOTT
Represented the Buyer
510.339.0400/211
scott@grubbco.com



sold sold

Charming Oakland Home
in Glenview
Originally offered at \$649,000
Represented the buyer



3926 Woodruff Avenue

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

JILL CARRIGAN
Office: 510.339.0400/328
jcarrigan@grubbco.com



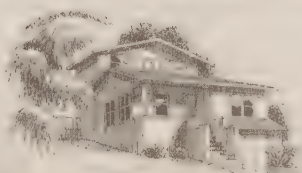
WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND
(510) 531-7000
www.wellsandbennett.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00PM – 4:30PM



175 VILLANOVA DRIVE \$1,695,000
Montclair. Beautifully crafted 4-year old Mediterranean on flat lot! Three plus bedroom, three and a half baths, rich finishes, gourmet kitchen, family room to great yard. Very Special!
Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251



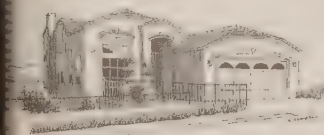
8926 THERMAL STREET \$650,000
Oakland. Open and sunny three bedroom, two bath on quiet street with Bay views. Updated large kitchen, dining room, spacious living room with fireplace, hardwood floors. Built on a 7,000 sq. ft. lot with expansion opportunity. Must See!
Rita Robinson 531-7000 x241



3015 MORCOM AVENUE \$510,000
Maxwell Park. Charming two bedroom, one and a half bath with panoramic Bay view! Living room with picture window and stone fireplace, updated kitchen with breakfast room, gleaming refinished hardwood floors, large bonus room – great for family room, office/den, huge basement with laundry and storage area, detached garage.
Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228

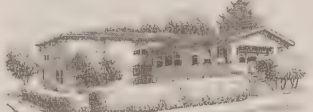


644 BROOKLYN AVENUE \$479,000
China Hill. Ultra charming two-story shingled Cape Cod! Two bedroom, one and a half bath with architectural detail, gorgeous refinished hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen with new linoleum, attached garage, close to shopping and Lake Merritt!
Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



8245 SKYLINE CIRCLE \$899,000
Oakland Hills. New Listing! Enjoy the panoramic San Francisco and Bay views. Two year old, three bedroom, two and a half bath, gourmet kitchen with island and granite counters, light and bright. Two car garage with inside access.
Jaya Bhimani 531-7000 x289

762 NORVELL STREET \$588,888
El Cerrito. New Listing! Duplex plus rear non-conforming studio. Lots of charm. Front duplex may have been three bedroom, two bath home originally. Separate meters for duplex. Hardwood floors, fireplace, nice front and rear yards. New roof.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



1183 BAYVIEW AVENUE \$499,000
Oakland. Huge craftsman needs loving. Charming four bedroom, two bath with tremendous potential. Spacious rooms, hardwood floors, living room fireplace, breakfast nook in kitchen, formal dining room, big basement with shop and recreation room, lovely lot. Needs work, sold "As Is".
Don Dunning 531-7000 x239



1607 62ND STREET \$399,000
Oakland. New construction, unusual quality in this two bedroom, one and a half bath town house style condominium. Secure garage parking and beautiful landscaped yard. Open Sunday 1pm – 4pm.
Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



6435 AND 6437 IRWIN COURT \$829,000
North Oakland. Renovated duplex both units three bedrooms, two baths. Both units vacant. Bonus historical water tower. Great location. Near U.C. Berkeley and College Avenue.
Anne Manley 531-7000 x277

LAND

ELVERTON DRIVE \$488,000
South and West Bay views, design review approved plans, neighborhood of \$1.5 million and up homes. Down slope with great possibilities.
Gerald Cheney 531-7000 x287

PANORAMIC BAY VIEW \$425,000
Million dollar view lot needs buyer to develop and take advantage of this sweeping view. Gentle down slope, utilities in street.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

NEW LISTING \$395,000
Claremont district. Upslope. Driveway in graded with pad. Utilities in street. Previous home destroyed in 1991 fire. Easterly view, possible peak at bay. No reports.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MENDOCINO IN OAKLAND? \$365,000
Yes! Private driveway lined with redwoods. Gentle down slope lot of over 12,000 sq. ft. Survey and soil report included. Oakmore Dist.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

OAKWOOD DRIVE \$239,000
Best Deal in Town. Very buildable up slope with soil report and topographic survey.
Gerald Cheney 531-7000 x287

INCOME PROPERTIES

EXCELLENT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY \$985,000
Glenview. Five plex with spacious unit ideas for owner occupant. Light and airy with many upgrades, all separate meters, parking spaces, great location!
Joy Bryden 531-7000 x218

DOWNTOWN OAKLAND COMMERCIAL BUILDING \$895,000
Jack London. Off Broadway near Jack London and Chinatown District. Victorian style with great public access. Across from city parking lot. Delivered vacant.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

NEW LISTING \$680,000
Oakland/Emeryville. Triplex. Two flats are three bedroom, two bath each with rear one bedroom, one bath cottage. GI \$44,940 yr. Very nice locale.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

NEW LISTING \$650,000
Oakland/Emeryville. Duplex. Three plus bedroom, one and a quarter bath and two bedroom, one bath. GI \$42,300 yr. Super locale.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

6304 MONADNOCK WAY \$320,000
Millsmont. Great starter with original charm, hardwood floors, built-ins, fireplace, huge back yard with patio, close to Saturday's Farmers Market. Two bedroom, one bath.
Heidi Kearsley 531-7000 x295

BY APPOINTMENT

A SPECIAL TREAT \$569,000
Albany. Delightful two bedroom, two bath home. Corner fireplace, arched entry and corner hutch in formal dining room. Modern kitchen, great master bedroom suite. Detached office. Convenient to Solano Avenue.
Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246

SUNNY AND CHARMING \$509,000
El Cerrito. Three bedroom, one bath home. Bay views from living room and kitchen. Fireplace and hardwood floors. Private backyard.
Barbara Roessler 531-7000 x264

NEW LISTING! \$430,000
Oakland/Fruitvale. What a gem! Wonderful two bedroom, one bath, hardwood floors, fireplace, updated kitchen and bath. Landscaped rear yard, basement storage and one car attached garage with interior access.
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



1832 HILLVIEW DRIVE \$825,000
San Leandro. Beautiful four bedroom single story home including master suite with adjoining bath. Enclosed entertainment room with built-in BBQ grill, dining room, living room and family room overlooking low maintenance yard. Great opportunity! Open Sunday 1pm – 4pm.
Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home

2754 Kingsland Avenue, Oakland

Delightful Maxwell Park Starter

Offered At: \$569,000

Upstairs

3 Bedroom, 1 bath
Craftsman bungalow.
Hardwood floors throughout,
upgraded kitchen, large
yard, great light!



Open Sun August 7th 2-4:30PM

Downstairs

1 Bedroom and bath
downstairs with private
entrance! Close to
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and Mills College!
Detached garage with
laundry and storage.

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OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2-4:30PM



This charming home has welcomed
Piedmont Avenue habitués since
1910. Whether they arrived by
horse and buggy, Key System, or
SUV, they likely enjoyed the
light-filled rooms, coved ceilings,
fireplace, hardwood floors, and
much more. There's a cheerful
backyard with garage too.
And all in a lovely, historic
neighborhood. Come see!

29-31 Rio Vista Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$649,000

Joan Dark

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www.pacunion.com

JUST LISTED! OPEN SATURDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1-4 PM
OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1-4 PM

6457 COLBY STREET, OAKLAND

Located in sought after Rockridge with restaurants,
shops, and easy transportation nearby, this 1906 Prairie-
style home has 3+ bedrooms & 2+ baths. Box beamed
ceilings and original built-in cabinetry lend a traditional
appeal. Wide, oak planking of the open-plan kitchen floor
enhances this room's generous feel. With abundant
windows overlooking the west facing lawn and gardens,
the breakfast room provides a comfortable setting for
informal suppers. Every room in this home offers warmth
& welcome, making everyone feel instantly at home.
Please visit www.6457Colby.com for more information



Offered at \$939,000



Patricia Scott Winslow
415.380.2161

- 3 bedrooms, 2+ baths, home office
- Formal-double living room & dining room,
both w/fireplaces
- Beautiful turn-of-the-century built-in cabinetry
- Chef's kitchen with built in espresso maker,
Viking range, pasta faucet

- Fabulous breakfast area opens to level-out
wisteria covered deck
- West facing yard and lawn w/hot tub
- Abundant basement storage area
- Garden shed
- 2 car garage

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RECENTLY SOLD



1025 HUBERT ROAD, OAKLAND
3+ Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths
Spectacular master suite
Originally offered at \$1,195,000
Sold with 3 offers - Represented the Sellers



1021 HUBERT ROAD, OAKLAND
3++ Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Beautiful architectural details
Originally offered at \$945,000
Sold with 4 offers - Represented the Sellers

308-310 49TH STREET, OAKLAND
2 houses on one lot
2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath each
Originally offered at \$625,000
Sold with 2 offers - Represented the Buyer



Ann Nichols
Senior Sales Consultant 510.338.1319
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and your own spa under the stars, you will
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A beautiful & spacious two
bedroom, one bathroom (+)
Colonial Revival home located on
a large corner lot in Central
Alameda. Built in 1903 this home
features hardwood floors, period
hardware & architectural details.
The kitchen was recently updated
with newer flooring, appliances
and granite countertops. The
converted basement features a
family room & tiki bar for
entertaining. In addition to a
laundry & storage area. Not to be
missed, the beautifully landscaped
backyard with spa, deck and brick
patio.

Offered at \$665,000



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Alameda

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GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 1-3 PM

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Exquisite 3+ bedroom, 3.5 bath Claremont
home featuring many amenities, park-like
home featuring many amenities, park-like
attention to detail and so much more! A
VIEW!!! You'll never want to leave home!
see! For more information, please
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7089 Norfolk Road,
Berkeley

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1.5 bath fixer upper with great potential. Mul
yard with terraces, spacious living/dining room
bay view.



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389 Ocean View,
Kensington

Offered at \$525,000

Pat Brennan
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www.PatBrennan.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW PIEDMONT LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2-5PM



16 Nace Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$859,000

With a perfect blend of yesterday's charm and today's conveniences, this wonderful home is full of light and warmth. This is your opportunity to enjoy the great schools and neighborhoods of Piedmont as well as the convenience of the nearby shops and restaurants on Piedmont Avenue. The gorgeous remodeled kitchen, large formal dining room, den, office, rumpus room, sun porches and 2 bathrooms add lots of living space to this 2 bedroom home. The deep yard, beautiful hill views and proximity to Beach School make this a really special home.



Vicki Woodhead
510.338.1334

NEW REDWOOD HEIGHTS LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2-4:30PM



3140 Guido Street, Oakland
Offered at \$699,000

A rare find in a delightful setting. Spacious one level living with tree views from every room. Totally remodeled kitchen including gorgeous pecan cabinetry, hardwood floors, stainless appliances and granite countertops. Incredible bath with Jacuzzi, new shower, and beautiful tile. Floorplan includes 2 large bedrooms, family room/home office, dining room, front deck, rear patio, workshop off 2-car garage.



Diane E. McCan
510.338.1352

REDWOOD HEIGHTS OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2-4:30PM



4044 Midvale Avenue, Oakland
Offered at \$629,000

Adorable cottage style home with SF and Bay views. Two spacious bedrooms, 2 baths including master bedroom suite. Random plank hardwoods in living room with handsome fireplace. Family/dining room off kitchen with deck. Plus room downstairs and attached garage. Deep lot - great space for gardening.



Cindy Houts
510.338.1364

MONTCLAIR OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2-4:30PM



24 Joaquin Miller Court, Oakland
Offered at \$669,000

Charming Ranch style, split level 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home in wooded setting. Large formal dining room is open to the kitchen. Kitchen is updated with tile countertops. Hardwood floors. Wood burning stove in living room. Sunny brick patio. Fenced yard. 2-car garage. Close to transportation, schools and Montclair Village.



Wendy Gardner-Ferrari
510.338.1303

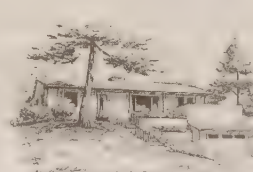
OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



PIEDMONT \$1,395,000
598 KINGSTON AVE.
Charming 4BR/2BA Mediterranean. Restored many of the original details. Updated kitchen & baths, hardwood floors, formal dining room. French doors to yard. Ashley O'Neill x1368



PIEDMONT \$859,000
16 NACE AVE.
(Open 2-5)
New Listing! Ultra charming 2++BR/2BA Traditional. Gorgeous remodeled kitchen, formal dining room, office, rumpus room, sun porches & a deep yard with beautiful hill views. Vicki Woodhead x1334



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$699,000
3140 GUIDO ST.
New Listing! Spacious 2BR home with tree views. Beautifully remodeled kitchen & bath. Family room/home office, dining room, front deck, back patio, workshop off 2-car garage. Diane E. McCan x1352



MONTCLAIR \$669,000
24 JOAQUIN MILLER CT.
Charming 3BR home close to Montclair shopping, transportation & schools. Updated kitchen, formal dining room, hardwood floors, yard, 2-car garage. Wendy Gardner-Ferrari x1303

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$629,000
4044 MIDVALE AVE.
Adorable cottage style home w/SF & bay views. 2BR/2BA. Random plank hardwoods in living room, handsome fireplace. Family/dining room off kitchen. Deep lot. Cindy Houts x1364

LAUREL \$599,000
4130 BAYO ST.
Enchanting brown shingle w/2BR/1.5BA, 2 fireplaces, formal dining room, sweet country kitchen, and office. Set in a verdant garden oasis. A charmer! Jeanine Weller x1329

BERKELEY \$1,350,000
2322 & 2322 1/2 STUART ST.
Two houses on one lot! A lovely 5BR/1++BA brown shingle w/formal dining, hardwood floors. And a farm house w/bedroom addition, eat-in kitchen. Great neighborhood. Joanna Gould x1346



REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$585,000
4548 TOYON PL.
Charming single level home on cul-de-sac. Sophisticated & spacious 2BR/1BA, gleaming random plank hardwoods, updated kitchen & bath. Patio & garden. Diane E. McCan x1352

HILLER HIGHLANDS \$1,025,000
30 STARVIEW DR.
Luxury downslope unit with beautiful South Bay view. Upgraded with hardwood, granite, marble. 2 fireplaces. Built-in stereo system. Atrium. 3+BR/2.5BA. Joanna Hirsch x1366

MONTCLAIR \$789,000
6662 LIGGETT DR.
Piedmont side of Montclair. Delightful traditional close to Montclair Village. Comfortable living spaces & a fabulous large deck. 3BR/2BA, family room, plus space & room to expand. Sandi Klemmer x1314

SHEFFIELD VILLAGE \$679,000
274 COVINGTON ST.
(Open 1-4)
Sunny & peaceful 3BR/2BA home in a beautiful neighborhood. Extensively remodeled. Formal dining room, kitchen w/granite counters, pretty yard. Michelle Miller x1335

PIEDMONT AVENUE \$649,000
29-31 RIO VISTA AVE.
Charming duplex with light-filled rooms, coved ceilings, fireplace, hardwood floors, and much more. Cheerful backyard, garage. Joan Dark x1316

EMERYVILLE \$495,000
5907-B VALLEJO ST.
Enjoy Emeryville's vitality in this contemporary, three-level townhome in 2-unit building. Two bedrooms, two baths, vaulted ceilings, laundry, deck with view of East Bay hills. Kathy Flynn x1317

BY APPOINTMENT

MONTCLAIR \$1,699,000
Luxurious brand new chic contemporary home on a very secluded cul-de-sac. Just minutes to Montclair Village and to elementary & middle schools. Four bedrooms plus office, three baths. David Ichikawa x1331

PIEDMONT \$1,395,000
Central Piedmont Brown Shingle. 3++ bedrooms, 2.5 baths, master suite with sitting room and deck, eat-in kitchen, formal dining room with built-ins, SF views, garden. Martha Holstlaw x1312

MONTCLAIR \$699,000
Charming two-plus bedrooms, one bath cottage set amidst flowering gardens and giant oak trees. Crown moldings, cathedral ceilings, fireplace & separate writer's studio. Fritz Hochfellner x1348

BERKELEY \$499,000
Major fixer - contractor special. North Berkeley location, on a slight downslope lot. Great bay view, 3BR/1BA, approximately 1434 square feet. Kathy Flynn x1317

BERKELEY \$250,000
Berkeley's best kept secret! Sunny Co-op (55+ years of age). Bright & sunny 1BR/1BA. Freshly painted, views of SF, enclosed lanai. New carpet. Photos @ pacunion.com. Nancy Moore x1302

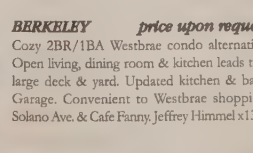
COMING SOON



NO. BERKELEY price upon request
Beautiful 2BR/1BA detached "just like a single family home" condo in North Berkeley near BART & Ohlone Park. Gorgeous hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room. Large eat-in kitchen. Deck & yard. Jennie A. Flanagan x1354



NO. BERKELEY price upon request
Charming and whimsical 2BR/1BA detached condo near BART & Ohlone Park. Beautiful softwood floors in the living room, kitchen & one bedroom. Wonderful secluded outdoor spaces. Jennie A. Flanagan x1354



OAKLAND HILLS price upon request
Very charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with South Bay views. Beautifully updated kitchen and dining area with access to enormous deck for outdoor entertaining. Refinished hardwood floors and fresh paint. A charmer! Ann Nichols x1319



OAKMORE price upon request
2 bedrooms, 1+ baths, formal living and dining rooms, huge plus room, breakfast nook. Beautiful details. Fabulous lush oversized gardens and gorgeous patios. Sandi Klemmer x1314 & Dick Cohen x1308

EL CERRITO \$899,000
Newer tri-level contemporary in the El Cerrito hills near BART! 3BR/2.5BA w/vaulted ceilings, open floor plan and formal dining room. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/granite counter tops. Deck w/views of Mt. Tam. Michelle Vasey x1359

SAN LEANDRO \$612,000
Delightful home with flexible floor plan. The family room with private balcony could easily become a 4th bedroom or large home office. 3BR/2BA (including master suite), spacious kitchen, beautiful back yard. Michelle Miller x1335

510.339.6460

Alameda County • Marin County • Diablo Valley • Contra Costa County
Napa Valley • Sonoma County • San Francisco • Union Trust Mortgage

www.pacunion.com

The Weekly
Sales can
be found in
the Auto
Section on
page D4.



KEVIN TANNAHILL
www.tannahillinfo
(510) 524-1112

Security Pacific
Real Estate Brokerage



6001 Columbia Ave., Richmond

Charming split-level 2 Bed, 1 Bath Richmond Annex home on a corner lot with an updated eat-in kitchen and bathroom, dining room, hardwood floors, new exterior paint, 2 car attached garage and pleasant rear yard. Much more!

Asking Price \$479,000
View Photos at www.tannahillinfo

GLENVIEW

Offers taken on or before August 11



4053 EVERETT
Great Home!

See this 2+2 and garage. Waiting for your personal touch. This is a special home for the right buyer. Your opportunity is really here.

\$599,000 - Make your offer!

James Brown 510-339-4797

sold@jamesbrownmoves.com

Thanks Rick &
Jan for your
response



COLDWELL
BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Open Sunday 2-4:30
Montclair

7001 Elverton Dr.

An awesome 4 level home offering lots of space and spectacular views. The second level features one bedroom and one Master Bedroom Suite with fireplace and balcony. Perfect for retreating. The third level is immaculately laid out with hardwood floors and bay & city lights. The bright and open living room and dining room are great for entertaining. There is a large family room and eat-in kitchen with many features that are excellent for lounging. On this level there is also a spacious bedroom, bathroom and laundry room. And finally the fourth level, there are two more bedrooms, a bonus room and bathroom. Luxury at its best!



Offered at \$1,199,000



Reva Tolbert
COLDWELL BANKER
510-339-4761
www.camoves.com

COLDWELL
BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

NEW LISTING



20 LA CINTILLA
ORINDA

Beautifully crafted tudor in the prestigious Orinda Country Club area has apx. 3,660 SF on .29 acres surrounded by mature trees. There are 4 BR, 3.5 BA. Eat-in kit w/adjoining fam rm with frpl. Lge. liv rm w/frpls, library, form din rm opens to huge Veranda. Luxury master BR w/frpls. Bonus rm for exercise, another office, etc. A light, airy, spacious home.

\$1,790,000



Jerilyn Babington
510-547-1615
510-421-9000
510-421-3500

www.discriminatinghomes.com

COLDWELL
BANKER
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

REDWOOD HEIGHTS • Oakland



4138 EASTLAKE

Darling Traditional With VIEWS!

PREPARE TO FALL IN LOVE!! Breathtaking views await you from this charming 30's traditional home set off the street with Bay and City views. There's 2 bedrooms and 1 bath upstairs with a bedroom or family room downstairs and a half bath. There's a formal living and dining room, freshly redone wood floors, fireplace and a nice kitchen with eating area and it's all been freshly painted. There's a laundry area and attached garage. A pretty side covered patio and a side yard framed by fir trees make this a special place to come home to. Come realize your dreams!!

Offered at \$649,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

View photos at www.donnaconroy.com
Or www.Realtor.com



COLDWELL
BANKER
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

**open
sunday**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This four bedroom and four bath contemporary home looks out into a wooded canyon preserve plus views of San Francisco, the Golden Gate and Bay Bridges. Cherry hardwood floors are on the main level including the stunning gourmet kitchen and open family room with a fireplace. The master suite is on a floor to itself with a large walk-in closet, shower, tub and dressing areas. A highlight of this home is that every bedroom has a view of the City, bridges and canyon.
Offered at \$1,295,000



6194 Maruella Drive, Montclair

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

ANTHONY RIGGINS
Office: 510.339.0400/282
ariggins@grubbco.com

**open
sunday**



211 Crocker Avenue, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This beautifully redesigned home has all the charm and character of an older home and all the modern amenities of new construction. From the luxurious master suite to the fabulous kitchen, to the inviting garden renovation, every detail has been meticulously thought after.
Offered at \$2,500,000

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

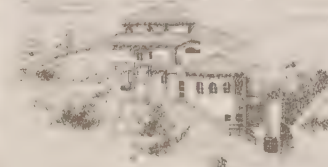
MINDY SCOTT
Office: 510.339.0400/215
scott@grubbco.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

11 DRURY COURT, OAKLAND

BIENVENUE!



Offered at \$3,750,000

Situated on a gated promontory in the Oakland Hills, with unsurpassed views of San Francisco Bay, Bridge and Canyon, this is an enchanted, very secluded, custom-built home, reminiscent of a piece of Europe. The spacious 7200 sq. ft. multi-level interior offers a multitude of spaces to accommodate the most formal of gatherings. Relax and entertain on one of the many terraces.

For Photos Please Visit www.21DruryCourt.com

Susan Peterson

925.253.6223

Gianna

925.253.6223



PLANET PROPERTIES

73 1/2 Roble Road, Oakland

Open Sunday 2-4:30pm

Listed at \$1,100,000



Great family house built in the 1990's with a spacious open tri-level floor plan. Includes four bedrooms plus master bedroom suite, large living room with fireplace, dining room, hardwood floors and a two car garage. Secluded yet convenient to Rockridge and Elmhurst.

Paolo D'oro
Designer

Nancy Duff
Broker

John Fonte
Realtor, MBA

"Nancy Duff, the real estate goddess of Berkeley, California"
-New York Times-

Contact 510-301-7100
Visit www.planetberkeley.com

NEW LISTING OPEN SUN 1-4

3911 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD, LAFAYETTE



Glorious Happy Valley Estate! Situated on a quiet lane you will find this magnificent home which has 1.53 acre of beautifully landscaped property. There are 4 bedrooms & 6 full baths in this house. Huge gourmet eat-in kitchen with fireplace & adj. family living room with fireplace & bay views; formal dining room has bay doors to serene patio. Lux. master suite with sitting room & fireplace access to hot tub. Sparkling pool cabana w/full kitchen, bathroom, bath. Lighted tennis court. Spacious guest house has living quarters, kitchen, bath & exercise room. This is your own private resort. www.discriminatinghomes.com



Jerilyn Babington
510-547-1615
510-421-9000
510-421-3500

www.discriminatinghomes.com

\$3,500,000

COLDWELL
BANKER
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Hills Real Estate & Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

Hills Newspapers: Your number one source for up-to-date East Bay real estate information.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM



1095 Bancroft Avenue, Estudillo Estates

2 BD/1.5 BA Sweet cottage with charming details, lovely original features and terrific updates.

Offered at \$599,000

Nayo Family Partners
Lydia Nayo & Kelley Nayo-Clift
510-339-4728

californiamoves.com



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Coming Soon

Crocker Highlands

Stately 4+ bedroom, 3 bath traditional with spacious living room, loggia for outdoor entertaining, formal dining, updated eat-in kitchen, private yard, paneled library, walk-up attic, plus room for au pair or den.

Offered at \$1,250,000



Dian Hymer, CRS

Associate Broker
Previous Property Specialist
510-339-4777
Photo Tours At:
dianhymer.com

Previous International



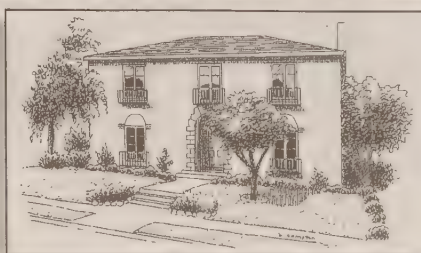
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Just Listed - Open Sunday 2-4:30pm

719 Longridge Road Crocker Highlands

Picture-perfect 3+ bedroom, 2+ bath Mediterranean. Remodeled kitchen, updated master bath, refinished hardwood floors, charming sun room. French doors from the spacious, light-filled eat-in kitchen open to a private, sunny yard.

Offered at \$1,050,000



www.719 Longridge Road.com

Dian Hymer, CRS

Associate Broker
Previous Property Specialist
510-339-4777
Photo Tours At:
dianhymer.com



RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

OPEN HOUSE



1349 PARK AVE, ALAMEDA \$749,000

3+2 Victorian with full basement. Great East-End location - One block to Park St. shopping & restaurants. Gorgeous period details throughout - high ceilings, fir floors, plaster ceiling medallions & two decorative fireplaces. In need of some work.



BONNIE ROSS
Realtor® Associate
510-339-4788
510-339-4700



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

BERKELEY \$1,400,000
3BR 4 BA Lovingly restored Victorian. Gabled roof, signature tower, bay windows, remod kit, 2 fireplaces.
Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495



HERCULES \$1,250,000
3 BR 4.5 BA Luxury throughout! 100,000+ sq ft, landscaped yard, patio & pool, gourmet kit w/cherry cabinets. Master suite. Great area and much more!
Barbara Allendorf 510.486.1495

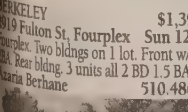
OPEN HOUSES



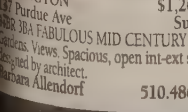
MONTCLAIR \$1,599,000
6271 Rutland Rd
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 3 BA spacious & light, indoor/outdoor living from lam rm & kit, serene setting on lrg parcel
Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700



MONTCLAIR \$1,499,000
6267 Rutland Rd
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 3 BA Revel in style in this contempo with crn-light views. Family room.
David Eckert 510.339.4700



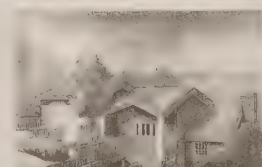
BERKELEY \$1,399,000
2919 Fulton St. Fourplex
Sun 12:30 - 4
4 BR 3 BA Fabulous MID CENTURY!
Gorgeous Views. Spacious, open int-ext spaces designed by architect.
Barbara Allendorf 510.486.1495



KENSINGTON \$1,200,000
127 Purdie Ave
Sun 2 - 5
4 BR 3 BA FABULOUS MID CENTURY!
Gorgeous Views. Spacious, open int-ext spaces designed by architect.
Barbara Allendorf 510.486.1495

OPEN HOUSES

BERKELEY HILLS \$1,175,000
781 Spruce
Sun 2 - 5
4 BR 3 BA Totally remod mid century home. Bay view. Hdwd, lrg lam rm, 2 car gar, huge deck. Lrg lot.
Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495



MONTCLAIR \$1,199,000
7001 Elverton
Sun 2 - 4:30
4+ BR 3 BA Space & views. 4 levels. This is all you need to feel like royalty.
Reva Tolbert/Preston Grant 510.339.4700



MONTCLAIR \$1,149,000
7260 Homewood
Sun 1:30 - 4:30
4 BR 4.5 BA Tucked into Hills. Striking. Contemp will wow you. High ceilings, lam rm, & office.
Leslie Wei 510.339.4700



MONTCLAIR \$1,130,000
6669 Sobrante
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2.5 BA Beautiful newer home w/high-end finishes throughout. Gourmet kitchen, lavish MSB.
Haideh Chew 510.339.4700



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,050,000
719 Longridge Rd
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Mediterranean with remodeled eat-in kitchen, newer baths, charming sun room & sunny yard
Dian Hymer/Joan Duffield 510.339.4700



OPEN HOUSES

OAKLAND \$849,000
1885 Grand View Drive
Sun 2 - 4
2+BR 2BA Hiller Highlands Townhome with Bay and SF views. Please visit
www.1885GrandView.com.
Holly Rose 510.486.1495



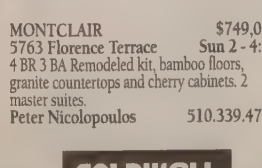
OAKLAND HILLS \$799,000
4755 Geranium Place
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Vaulted ceiling LR & DR. HWF 2 FP. Eat-in Kit. South Bay View.
Ruby Ng 510.339.4700



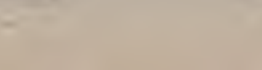
ESTUDILLO ESTATES \$789,000
1079 Lee Street
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Charming Mediterranean w/creekside setting in San Leandro.
Lydia Nayo 510.339.4700



ALAMEDA \$749,000
1349 Park Ave
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Victorian in great loc w/full basement. High ceilings, fir floors & many orig details!
Bonnie Ross 510.339.4700

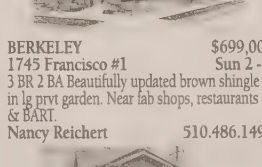


MONTCLAIR \$749,000
5763 Florence Terrace
Sun 2 - 4:30
4 BR 3 BA Remodeled kit, bamboo floors, granite countertops and cherry cabinets. 2 master suites.
Peter Nicolopoulos 510.339.4700

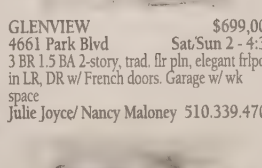


OPEN HOUSES

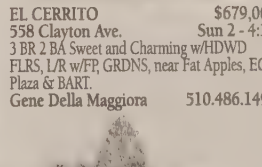
BERKELEY \$699,000
1745 Francisco #1
Sun 2 - 4
3 BR 2 BA Beautifully updated brown shingle in lrg prvt garden. Near fab shops, restaurants & BART.
Nancy Reichert 510.486.1495



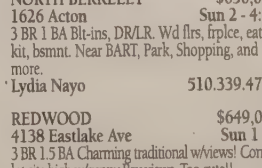
GLENVIEW \$699,000
4661 Park Blvd
Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 1.5 BA 2-story, trad. fir pln, elegant frlpc in LR, DR w/ French doors. Garage w/wk space
Julie Joyce/ Nancy Maloney 510.339.4700



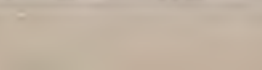
EL CERRITO \$679,000
558 Clayton Ave.
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 2 BA Sweet and Charming w/HWDF, FLRS, L/R w/FP, GRDNS, near Fat Apples, EC Plaza & BART.
Gene Della Maggiora 510.486.1495



NORTH BERKELEY \$650,000
1626 Acton
Sun 2 - 4:30
3 BR 1 BA Blt-ins, DR/LR, Wd flrs, frlpc, eat-in kit, bsmt. Near BART, Park, Shopping, and more.
Lydia Nayo 510.339.4700

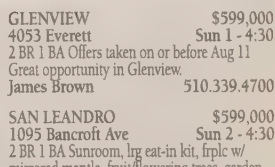


REDWOOD \$649,000
4138 Eastlake Ave
Sun 1 - 5
3 BR 1.5 BA Charming traditional w/views! Corner lot sits high w/sunny Bay views. Too cute!!
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

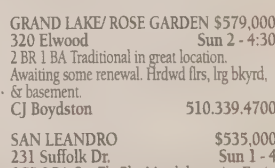


OPEN HOUSES

BERKELEY \$599,000
1142 FRANCISCO ST.
Sun 2 - 4:30
2+BR 1 BA Elegant & practical mod kit. Spacious lam rm opens to lush grdn. Split lvl w/space & prvcy.
Rita Zwerdling 510.486.1495



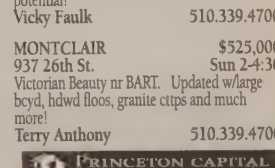
GLENVIEW \$599,000
4053 Everett
Sun 1 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Offers taken on or before Aug 11. Great opportunity in Glenview.
James Brown 510.339.4700



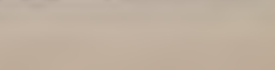
SAN LEANDRO \$599,000
1095 Bancroft Ave
Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Sunroom, lrg eat-in kit, frlpc w/ mirrored mantle, fruit/flowering trees, garden.
Lydia Nayo 510.339.4700



JACK LONDON SQUARE \$590,000
201 4th St 411
Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 2 BA Kitchen-granite ctrs, SS appliances, MBA has soaker tub
Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700



GRAND LAKE/ ROSE GARDEN \$579,000
320 Elwood
Sun 2 - 4:30
2 BR 1 BA Traditional in great location. Awaiting some renewal. Hdwd flrs, lrg bkryd, & basement.
CJ Boydston 510.339.4700



SAN LEANDRO \$535,000
231 Suffolk Dr.
Sun 1 - 4
2 BR 2 BA Grt. Fir. Pln. Mstr bdrm suite, Eat in kit. HWF FP, Sweet yd. Garage w/space for wk. shop.
Nancy Maloney 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$499,000
1555 Lakeside Dr. Unit #30
Sun 2 - 5
2 BR 2 BA Remodeled Condo w/gorgeous lake view & 2 balconies. Open, split lvl fir pln, bamboo flrs.
Jacky Arvin 510.486.1495

OAKLAND \$394,500
180 Caldecott Lane 116
Sun 2 - 4
1 BR 1 BA Beautiful Parkwoods unit. More info, photos and floorplan at
www.IMakeYourMove.com.
Bobbie Giarratana 510.486.1495

FRUITVALE \$379,000
2750 Bona Street
Sun 1 - 4
2 BR 1 BA Contractor's special! Charming traditional. Wd floors, lg rooms, great potential!
Vicky Faulk 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR \$525,000
937 26th St.
Sun 2 - 4:30
Victorian Beauty nr BART. Updated w/large bcyd, hdwd flrs, granite ctrps and much more!
Terry Anthony 510.339.4700

PRINCETON CAPITAL
800.558.4443

1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley

6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

COLDWELL BANKER BERKELEY

KENSINGTON

\$1,200,000

JUST LISTED



FABULOUS MID-CENTURY

137 Purdue. Spacious 3700+ sq ft, 4bed/3bath, light-filled home on half-acre lot. Lush gardens, great interior-exterior spaces. Every detail thoughtfully designed. Views & great neighborhood. www.137purdue.com

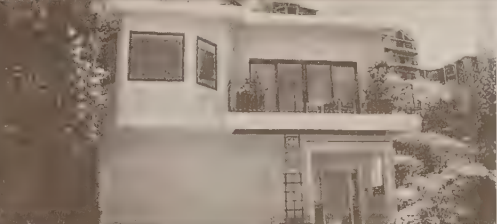
BARB ALLENDORF
510-684-3468
www.thathouselady.com



OAKLAND

\$849,000

JUST LISTED



HILLER HIGHLANDS TOWNHOME

1885 Grandview Dr. Open Sundays (8/7 and 8/14) 2:00-4:00. Coveted end unit with expansive views of Bay, San Francisco and Golden Gate Bridge. 2 Bedrooms/2 baths plus large loft; approx. 1900 Sq. Ft. total. Vaulted ceiling, balconies, fireplace, sun-drenched deck overlooking the bay. Lg. kitchen with custom steel counters. Two-car garage plus darkroom and extra cedar-lined closet. Excellent privacy, impeccable condition, flooded with natural light throughout. www.GrandView.com

HOLLY ROSE
510-981-3007



BERKELEY

\$1,350,00

ACTIVE



VICTORIAN MASTERPIECE

2156 Ward Street. Designed and built by A.W. Pattiani in 1889, this Queen Anne Victoria is approx. 4,400 sq. ft. with 5 bedrooms/4 baths. Substantially restored by current owners, it retains many classic architectural features and gingerbread details, including stained glass wood paneling and trim, high ceilings with rosettes. Much, much more. Shown by Appointment.

KIM AND BARBARA
MARIENTHAL
510-981-3036/3020
www.marienthal.com



BERKELEY

JUST SOLD



REPRESENTED THE BUYERS!

1100 Sutter St.
A wonderful 3bds/2ba North
Berkeley traditional with an in-law unit.
Originally offered at \$729,000
Sold with Multiple offers

PARVIZ
BAGHERZADECH
510-981-3055



BERKELEY

\$2,150,000

BY APPT



BERKELEY HISTORIC TREASURE

This Gem is truly one of Berkeley's historically significant treasures. Built in 1877 this "Bartlett House" is considered one of the finest examples of Italianate architecture in the bay area. These two amazing homes share one large 13,500 sq ft lot and are being offered AS-IS

J. MICHAEL POWERS
510-981-3027
www.PowersGroup.com



HERCULES

\$1,250,000

REDUCED PRICE



GREAT HOME W/ POOL

1036 Regatta. Luxury throughout! 100,000+ upgrades-landscaped yd, & patio w/pool, gourmet kit w/cherry cabinets. Great master suite, 3 garages. Located in prestigious Victoria By the Bay. Don't miss this one. www.1036regattapoint.com

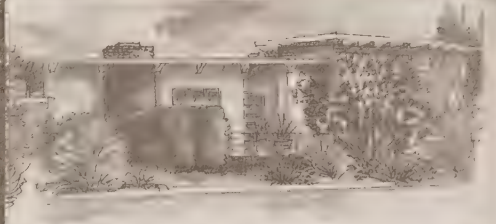
BARB ALLENDORF
510-684-3468
www.thathouselady.com



EI CERRITO

\$519,000

COMING 8/14



STYLISH MID-CENTURY MODERN

7247 Lincoln. This light filled gem of Mid-Century design has a sense of spaciousness, beamed ceilings throughout, hardwood floors, and a seamless connection with the private backyard. With an updated kitchen, two bedrooms plus, two baths, it is set in a garden of olive trees, lemons, lavender, and flowering shrubs. Conveniently close to El Cerrito Plaza, Fatapple's, and BART.

KATHIE LONGINOTTI
510-981-3032
www.camoveskathie.longinotti



BERKELEY

\$1,175,000

ACTIVE



REMODELED WITH AMAZING VIEWS!

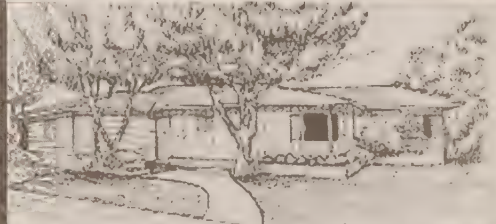
781 Spruce Street. Open Sunday, 8/7 2:00-5:00. Totally remodeled 3500 sq. ft. 4 bedroom/3 bath home. Commanding bay, city and bridge views. All new hardwood floors, new kitchen with granite counters and cherrywood cabinets. Master bedroom suite with beautiful tile and fixtures. Legal downstairs unit. Over 12,000 sq. ft. lot, beautifully landscaped private front courtyard.

KIM AND BARBARA
MARIENTHAL
510-981-3036/3020
www.marienthal.com



BERKELEY

JUST SOLD



REPRESENTED THE BUYERS!

2201 Virginia St. # 6
A Beautiful, Bright 1br/1ba North
Berkeley Condo with SF Bay views.
Originally offered at \$439,000.

PARVIZ
BAGHERZADECH
510-981-3055



EL CERRITO

\$679,000

OPEN SUNDAY



SWEET AND CHARMING EL CERRITO HOME!

Light, bright and large 3 BR/2 BA home complete with white picket fence. Features hardwood floors, fresh interior paint, living room with fireplace, front and side gardens, large rumpus room and a 2-car detached garage. Please see www.GDELLA.com for photos and more information.

GENE DELLA MAGGIORA
510-981-3044
gene@cubik.com



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House hunting?
Turn to the Open Homes Guide starting on B24 for a headstart.

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY 510.524.9888



439 Spruce St., Berkeley

This majestic Traditional delivers phenomenal Bay views. The living room boasts a wood-beamed cathedral ceiling, graceful archways, a fireplace & hardwood floors. Featuring 5 bdrms & 4 full baths, this home also presents a dignified home office w/separate entrance & waiting room. Offered in excellent condition, recent improvements include drainage upgrades & dual-pane windows.

Bill and Tracy, x33

Open Sunday, 2:00-4:00

\$1,200,000



1435 Campus Dr., Berkeley

New listing! Light-filled & charming mid-century home in a serene Berkeley hills setting surrounded by greenery. 3+ bdrms, 2 baths. Newly painted inside & out, beaut. hwd flrs, frpl, French doors open to spacious and private bklyd and patio. Wine cellar/storage room in garage.

Peter Damm, x13

\$675,000

Open Sunday, 2:00-4:30

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RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

To sign up for daily email updates or for other Real Estate information, visit www.redoakrealty.com.



OAKLAND - NEW!

\$857,000

3+2.5 - Charming Cape Cod in Crocker Highlands with newly finished hardwoods & decorator colors. Close to Lakeshore shops & more!

711 Carlston Avenue

Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW!

\$1,100,000

5/2.5 - Capt. Luttrell's House, 1889 Queen Anne Victorian, historically significant. Maintained with many upgrades. Fenced in for privacy.

2328 Channing Way

Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW!

\$769,000

3+2 - Hidden treasure in the hills in need of a little TLC. Flexible floorplan, abundance of natural light. Separate parcel included in price.

1188 Keeler Avenue

Open 2-4



ALBANY

\$559,000

2/1 - Extensively remodeled quintessential cottage sitting on a large, level lot. Boasts a designer kitchen, updated bath and more.

939 Key Route Blvd. Open Sat+Sun 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW!

\$410,000

2/1 - Lovely Laurel bungalow in great condition. Hardwood floors throughout, central heat and plus room/storage.

3047 Delaware Street

Open 2-4



BERKELEY

\$799,000

2/1 - Well maintained with a very gracious floor plan, hardwood floors, and Craftsman details. Also a 1/1 detached cottage.

1837 Sonoma Avenue

Open 2-4



EL CERRITO

\$549,000

2+1 - Gorgeous, sun-filled spiffy home with a view of the El Cerrito hills with a landscaped garden. This well-loved home is ready for you!

1326 Everett Street

Open 2-4

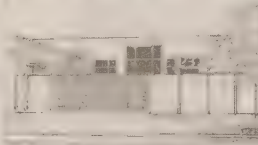


ALBANY

\$434,900

2/2 - Light-filled condo on quiet side of Albany Hill. Sweeping Bay/Hill views. Deck, skylights, fireplace. www.BobBlumberg.com.

535-B Jackson Street Open 2-4



OAKLAND

\$409,000

LOFTS - Four sleek, light-filled units, each priced from \$389,000 to \$499,000 in a jazzy warehouse conversion. www.saragarabedian.com

2323 Magnolia Street

Open 1:30-4:30



BERKELEY

\$359,000

1/1 - Delightful condo with hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, remodeled eat-in kitchen and bath. 1 of 6 units.

1825 Vine Street #6

Open 2-4



RICHMOND ANNEX - NEW!

\$499,000

3/2 - Sunny & flexible floorplan. Updated electrical, garage with interior access, level private, grassy yard. More!

2816 San Mateo

Open 2-4



MORAGA

\$989,000

3/2.5 - Classic ranch style home. Spacious & bright, 2 fireplaces. Large lot, beautiful yard, all on one level! Potential for expansion.

176 Shuey Drive

Open 2-4

OAKLAND - NEW!
1/1 - Distinctive 1,240 square foot live/work in coveted Clawson School lofts. Must see unexpected finishes. More at www.saragarabedian.com.
3240 Peralta Street #12 Open 2-4

BERKELEY
2/2 - Beautifully remodeled home. Must see to appreciate the fantastic location! Photos and more at www.charliecookproperties.com.
1421 Northside Avenue Open 2-4:30

[august 7th]

CONGRATULATIONS TO RED OAK REALTY'S TOP PRODUCERS FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2005!

Top Team Producers: THE SARAYA MOTLEY TEAM

1891 Solano Avenue: KATHY NITSAN



2099 Pleasant Valley Avenue: ELIZABETH McDONALD

2983 College Avenue: JENNIFER FICKENSCHER

by appointment



OAKLAND

\$429,000

2/1 - Very nice and sunny Toler Heights home on a huge lot, broad Bay views and mature fruit trees! On record as 3/1. Easy access to 580.



BERKELEY

\$1,950,000

4+3 - Fabulous 3,500 sq.ft. Contemporary on 0.49 acre secluded lot. Majestic great room with copper fireplace. Soaring ceilings.



BERKELEY

\$1,225,000

3 HOMES/1 LOT - Detached homes, great opportunity for extended families, TIC. All renovated in 1999. Near U.C.B. & BART.



OAKLAND

\$389,000

2/1 - Bright contemporary condo in 9-unit cottages complex. Features updated kitchen & bath, bamboo floors, private patio, more.



BERKELEY

\$779,000

3/2 - Stylish mid-century home close to the Rose Garden. Gorgeous inside and out. Level lot with beautiful decks & gardens.



ORINDA

\$795,000

2/2 - Feel miles away in this peaceful wooded setting, but a short stroll brings you to the heart of downtown Orinda.

OAKLAND
3/1 - Bungalow in Glenview. New updated kitchen & bath. Hardwood floors, landscaped yard. Photos at www.KatieandMark.com.

\$469,000

BERKELEY

\$675,000

3+1.5+ - Big price reduction! Fixer Tudor located in the North Berkeley Hills with view & hardwood floors. Close to UCB and more.

RICHMOND

\$499,000

3/2 - Gardener's Paradise! Located in White Cliff neighborhood. Many upgrades, hardwood floors, new interior paint, private yard.

Cold feet?



CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1655
OR E-MAIL DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM.

Advertisers: To be considered for the Real Estate Focus (inside box) e-mail
text and photo to: ljessup@cctimes.com

NEW CONSTRUCTION CONTEMPORARY IN WHICH ONLY THE BEST WILL DO!



Open Sunday 2-5

Exquisite design and detail throughout this 4 bedroom, 4 bath, 12 room home with lower level library, media room, laundry with separate entry. Au-pair/in-law potential.

Enjoy the green vistas and special access to the Lake Temescal Park play areas, beach and hiking trails.

An incredibly beautiful home by Boostani-Glaudemans Architects & JP Builders.

6036 Contra Costa Road
\$1,850,000



Lois Harris
287-2521 voice mail
Lois.Harris@Prudential.com
RealtorLois.com
Dedicated to the success and
satisfaction of my clients



2 Melvin Court

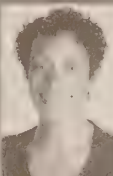


A Must See!

Fabulous Upper Oakmore home with panoramic S.F. Bay views. Three plus bedrooms, 2 baths. One level living on a corner lot. Extensive upgrades. Beautifully landscaped grounds and located on a quiet cul-de-sac. A must see! Open Sunday 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Offered at \$829,000

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510.339.8400 office

6845 OAKWOOD DRIVE



Built in 1992 by Jackson Mosher, this impressive contemporary home with over 4,000 square feet features sophisticated design, quality finishes and truly grand proportions.

- 3 Bedrooms and 2.5 baths including master suite with fireplace and luxurious walk-in closet
- Gourmet kitchen with granite, hardwood floors and dining alcove
- Living and dining rooms with vaulted ceilings, deck and fireplace
- Large office with hardwood floors, arched doorways and built-ins
- Stylish, new in-law quarters offering an additional 1,200 sq. ft. of living space

Offered At: \$1,295,000

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FINE HOMES & ESTATES
HeritageRealEstate.com



Cathy Truelove
REALTOR
510.339.8900 x 300
ctrulove@c2t.com

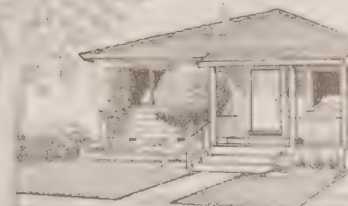
RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



RED OAK
REALTY

2099 Pleasant Valley |
Oakland, CA 94611



1326 EVERETT STREET, EL CERRITO

Fabulous, sun-filled 2+ bedroom, 1 bath spiffy home with view of El Cerrito Hills, landscaped garden and many extras! This well-loved home is ready for you! LISTED AT \$549,000

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH 2-4PM



Catherine Stern, Realtor®
DIRECT: 510-292-2030 EMAIL: cmstern@pacbell.net

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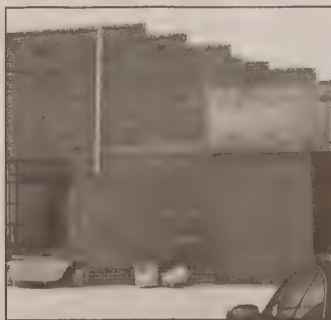
Member FDIC



*5.674% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. 10/1 adjustable rate mortgage is fixed for the first 10 years and then adjusted to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$359,650 is approximately \$2,014.50 subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Homeowners insurance required.
**5.315% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount is approximately \$2,000.00. Homeowners insurance required.
***5.858% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$500,000 + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment is \$2,918. Homeowners insurance is required.

Above programs are based on primary, single family residences, townhouses, and condominiums only. No prepayment penalty required. Cash out allowed up to 75% loan-to-value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualifications and underwriting requirements. Rates as of 8/2/05 are subject to change without notice.

DUPLEX WITH BRICK LOFT/GARAGE 975, 977 AND 981 35TH STREET, OAKLAND



Outstanding duplex, very large, restored with all original fixtures. Better than new. Total six bedrooms, four baths PLUS Brick warehouse/garage/super chic LOFT, approximately 2500 square feet with kitchen and bath. ALL with permits. Plenty of off-street parking behind an electric security gate. Near EMERYVILLE shopping. Minutes from San Francisco and Berkeley.

MUST SEE.

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\$948,000



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The Weekly Sales can be found in the Auto Section on page D4.



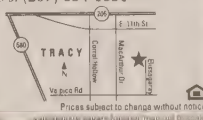
New Release

Rosewood Estates

Room to grow.

SOARING SPACE AND ELEGANT DESIGN COMBINE AT ROSEWOOD ESTATES. Our latest collection of luxury residences has all the space a growing family needs...and more. Four gorgeous floorplans with up to 3,679 sq. ft. of living area are situated on sites that average over 8,000 sq. ft. Comfortable, inviting spaces include large family rooms, spacious secondary bedrooms, dens and bonus rooms (per plan). Plus, one cannot overlook the stunning exteriors in Normandy, Queen Anne, Cottage and Georgian architectural styles.

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RED OAK REALTY

Captain Luttrell's House



1891 Solano Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707



2328 CHANNING WAY, BERKELEY

Wonderful, updated 1889 Queen Anne Victorian designed by Ira A. Boynton. 5 bedrooms with a plus attic, 2.5 baths. Lots of off-street parking and a fully fenced property for privacy. LISTED AT \$1,100,000

OPEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH 2-4:30PM

Marc Guay, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2103 EMAIL: marc@redoakrealty.com

Established 1976

RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



2099 Pleasant Valley Oakland, CA 94611



711 CARLSTON AVENUE OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY AUGUST 7TH 2-4PM

This charming Cape Cod style home is filled with original details: beautiful floor to ceiling bay windows, freshly refinished hardwoods and designer colors throughout this 3+ bedroom, 2.5 bath home. On the main level is a gracious living room and family room with French doors that open to an expansive redwood deck, formal dining room, spacious kitchen, perfect for entertaining. Upstairs are 3 bedrooms, built in cabinets and a full bath. The finished basement boasts the perfect space for a home office or guest room. Set in the highly desirable neighborhood of Crocker Highlands with a lovely terraced patio, this home is move-in ready. Enjoy all the amenities that come with its close proximity to Lakeshore shops and restaurants. LISTED AT \$857,000

Saraya Motley, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2162 EMAIL: saraya@eastbayhouse.com

Established 1976

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1891 Solano Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707



1837 SONOMA AVENUE BERKELEY

OPEN SUNDAY AUGUST 7TH 2-4PM

Elegant 2 bedroom Craftsman bungalow and a legal detached studio cottage with a full bath. Located in Berkeley's fantastic, Northbrae neighborhood just a stones throw from shops, parks and restaurants. The main house is a spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath with a formal entry, hardwood floors throughout, a beautiful Arts and Crafts fireplace in the gracious living room and a large built-in in the dining room. The kitchen and bath have been taste fully updated and include newer high end appliances and fixtures. The yard is a private sanctuary surrounded by mature trees. The large sunny deck for entertaining, a grassy area, and a vegetable garden make it possible to enjoy a whole range of outdoor activities in your own garden. The light and airy cottage features a Murphy bed, small office and a full bath. Ideal for guests, in laws, or Au Pair unit. LISTED AT \$799,000

Leif Jenssen, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2126 WEB: www.redoakrealty.com

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1891 Solano Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707



1188 KEELER, BERKELEY

A wonderful hidden treasure in the Berkeley hills in need of some TLC. A three-plus bedroom, two bathroom, formal dining, living with a fireplace, hardwood floors, flexible floor plan, an abundance of windows and large deck overlooking the yard in a Beautiful creek setting with lots of privacy. Price includes a separate parcel of land. LISTED AT \$769,000

OPEN SUNDAYS AUGUST 7TH & 14TH 2-4PM

Feri Niroomand, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-409-9111 EMAIL: fer@redoakrealty.com

Established 1976

RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



1891 Solano Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707



939 KEY ROUTE BOULEVARD, ALBANY

DELIGHTFUL, CHARMING, ALBANY COTTAGE WITH CURB APPEAL! This exceptional, extensively remodeled, 2 bedroom, 1 bath sunny home sits on a large level lot with room for expansion or a large garden; granite countertops & maple cabinets in kitchen; updated bath with imported stone tiles; gleaming hardwood floors; ALL NEW... roof, central heating, copper plumbing, electrical, double-pane windows and numerous other upgrades! Just minutes from transportation, Solano Avenue shops and restaurants! LISTED AT \$559,000

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, AUGUST 6TH & 7TH 1:30-4PM

Virginia Jones, SRES, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2145 EMAIL: vj@virginiajones.com

Established 1976

RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



1891 Solano Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707



1141 KING DRIVE, EL CERRITO

Sophisticated San Francisco-view home - Renovated with Style! Indoor and outdoor kitchens with stainless appliances and granite counters. 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 fireplaces, hot tub off family room, hardwood and slate floors, and large yard. Photos at www.redoakrealty.com. LISTED AT \$799,000

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Jeanne Lengsfelder, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2106 EMAIL: jeanne@redoakrealty.com

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com



Alameda			Alameda		
\$289,000	219 D Cypress	1 BD/1 BA	\$580,000	1235 Broadway	2 units
Sat/Sun 2-4	West End	510-522-7173	Sun 2-4	Central	510-814-4714/814-4839
Harbor Bay Realty		Bev Williams	Harbor Bay Realty	Barbara Bolton/Bill Douglas	
\$399,950	1321 Webster St. #102	2 BD/2 BA	\$590,000	1022 Doris Ct	2 BD/1 BA
Open Sun 1-5	Park Webster	510-521-6268	Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-522-7173
By Owner			Harbor Bay Realty	George Williams	
\$399,950	2000 Central Ave. Unit L	2 BD/1 BA	\$599,000	1827 St. Charles St.	3 BD/1 BA
Sun 2-4		510-522-8585	Sat/Sun 2-4		510-333-8897
Alameda Realty			Alameda Realty	Eileen Walker	
\$405,000	1500 Central Ave. #F	2BD/2BA	\$599,000	1843 8th St.	2 BD/2 BA
Sun 2-4		510-919-5485	Sat 2-4:30	Central	510-814-4861
Kane & Associates		Dede Cunningham	Harbor Bay Realty	Susan Battaglia	
\$425,000	325 Kitty Hawk Rd #205	2BD/1.5BA	\$639,000	2511 Eagle Avenue	2+ BD/2 BA
Sun 2-4		510-919-5485	Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-747-1620/748-1135
Kane & Associates		John Bergman	Gallagher & Lindsey	Moon Tam/Eric Tam	
\$429,900	51 Garden Road	2 BD/1 BA	\$649,000	1227 Porta Ballena	3 BD/2 BA
Sun 2-4	Bay Farm Isle	510-814-4835	Sat/Sun 1-4		510-865-2525
Harbor Bay Realty		Elaine Budka	Keller Williams	Deldre Dixon	
\$480,000	1519 Central Ave	2 BD/2 BA	\$649,000	2860 Jackson St.	3 BD/1 BA
Sun 2-4		510-521-1630	Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-814-4874/814-4846
Bayside Real Estate		Janelle Spatz	Harbor Bay Realty	Mark Playsted/Janice Payne	
\$495,000	1143 Camino Del Valle	2BD/1.5BA	\$649,000	402 Haight Ave	3 BD/2 BA
Sat/Sun 2-4:30	Bay Farm	510-748-1166	Sat/Sun 2-4	West End	510-814-4869
Gallagher & Lindsey		Rolando & Coqui Basora	Harbor Bay Realty	Catherine Bierwirth	
\$495,000	3 Mastick Court	2 BD/1 BA	\$649,500	1126 Mound Street	2BD/1BA
Sat & Sun 2-4:30	East End	510-748-1156/748-1172	Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-748-1108
Gallagher & Lindsey		Doreen T/Shon S	Gallagher & Lindsey	Bill & Griselda Bissett	
\$565,000	1237 Broadway	2BD/1BA	\$659,000	224 Brighton Ct	2 BD/2 BA
Sun 2-4	Central	510-814-4714/814-4839	Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4828/814-4810
Harbor Bay Realty		Barbara Bolton/Bill Douglas	Harbor Bay Realty	Martha Turner/Jane Friedrich	
\$579,000	2525 San Jose Ave.	2 BD/1 BA	\$659,500	1216 Court St.	2 BD/1 BA
Sun 2-4:30		510-522-5827	Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-814-4841
Bayside Real Estate		Mark Wyman	Harbor Bay Realty	Tom Young	

Alameda			Alameda		
\$649,000	1713 Oak Street	3+BD/1.5 BA	\$990,000	1620 Dayton Ave.	3 BD/2.5 BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	Central Alameda	510-748-1108	Sat/Sun 2-4	Gold Coast	510-814-4899
Gallagher & Lindsey		Bill & Griselda Bissett	Harbor Bay Realty	Karen Weiman	
\$665,000	1726 Lafayette St	2 BD/1 BA	\$995,000	1337 Sherman St	4BD/3BA
Sat/Sun 2-5	Central	510-814-4832	Sun 1-3	Neighborhood	707-965-1905
Harbor Bay Realty		Danla Alvarez-Morroni	Charles Dunn		
\$669,000	1032 Court St	3BD/2BA	\$1,250,000	3017 Marina Dr	3BD/3 BA
Sat/Sun 1-4	East End	510-748-1173/748-1110	Sun 2-4	Fernside Marina	510-814-4709
Gallagher & Lindsey		Kurt Jacobsen/Sonia Lastreto	Harbor Bay Realty	Marilyn Schumacher	
\$673,000	1050 Mangrove	4 BD/2 1/2 BA	\$1,398,000	612 Fortress Isle	4+BD/3+BA
Sun 2-4:30		510-522-5827, 510-387-3790	Sun 1-4	So. Shore	510-769-0581
Bayside Real Estate		Dianna Wyman, C. McFerrin	Century 21 LandMark Excellence		
\$695,000	1822 Pacific Ave	3 BD/1 1/2 BA	Albany		
Sun 2-4		510-303-2525	\$434,900	535 Jackson St. Unit B	2bd/2ba
Alameda Realty		Betty Barr	Open Sun. 2-4		510-292-2013
\$698,000	1192 Park St.	3BD/1BA	Red Oak Realty		Todd Andrew
SAT/SUN 2-4		510-814-8160	\$499,000	926 Masonic	2bd/1ba
AGENT		BLANCHE DE LEON	Open Sun. 2-4		510-524-8508
\$699,000	563 Country Isle	4 BD/2.5 BA	Jeans Realty		Diane Deutsche
Sat/Sun 2-4:30	South Shore	510-814-4813	\$559,000	939 Key Route Rd	2BD/1BA
Harbor Bay Realty		Richard Kim	Open Sat/Sun. 2-4		510-280-2145
\$718,000	167 Orr Road	3BD/2.5BA	Red Oak Realty		Virginia Jones
Sat/Sun 2-4		510-483-1675	\$765,000	1131 Portland Ave.	3BD/2 1/2 BA
Kane & Associates		Krystyna Nowak	Open Sun 1-4		415-986-6312
\$719,500	410 Lagunaria	3 BD/2.5 BA	North Beach Properties		Rick Durazzo
Sat/Sun 2-4	Harbor Bay Isle	510-814-4854			
Harbor Bay Realty		Donn Gutierrez	Berkeley		
\$729,000	1252 Hawthorne St.	3 BD/1 BA	\$1,150,000	956 Arlington Ave.	4bd/2+ba
Sun 2-4	Gold Coast	510-814-4810	Open Sun. 2-4	Berkeley Hills	510-428-0900
Harbor Bay Realty		Jane Friedrich	Prudential		Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine
\$749,000	3321 Central Ave	3 BD/2 BA	\$1,850,000	1395 Grizzly Peak Blvd.	4+bd/2.5ba
Sun 2-4	East End	510-814-4825	Open Sun. 2-4:30	Berkeley Hills	510-834-2010
Harbor Bay Realty		Shirley McWilliam	Prudential Cal. Realty		Henriette Lanier-Green
\$759,000	311 Central Ave	3 BD/1 BA	\$250,000	2550 Dana St. #2E	1bd/1ba
Sat/Sun 2-4	West End	510-814-4835/814-4829	Open Sun. 2-4	(Senior 55+ Co-op)	510-848-1950x235
Harbor Bay Realty		Elaine Budka/Margaret Lomba	Thornwall Properties		Nancy Foss
\$775,000	314 Ironwood Dr.	3 BD/2.5 BA	\$250,000	2550 Dana St. #7C	1BD/1BA
Sat/Sun 2-4		(510) 376-4447/ 522-1175	Open Sun 2-4		510-338-1363
Kane & Associates		Michael Kelly / Betty Sewel	Pacific Union		Leslie Easterday
\$795,000	1623 Moreland Dr	3BD/1.5BA	\$359,000	1825 Vine St. Unit#6	1bd/1ba
Sun 2-4	Fernside	510-748-1116	Open Sun. 2-4		510-280-2178
Gallagher & Lindsey		Alicia Garvin	Red Oak Realty		Grace Bishop
\$799,000	1409 9th Street	4 BD/2 BA	\$459,000	2632 Warring St., #4	2BD/1BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	Central	510-814-4819	Open Sunday, 2-4:30		510-773-4614
Harbor Bay Realty		Chuck & Nancy Bianchi	Keller Williams		
\$839,000	1019 Taylor Ave.	Duplex	\$485,000	1116 Harrison Street	1+BD/1BA
Sat & Sun 2-4	West End	510-748-1148/748-1198	Open Sun 2-4:30	Westbrae	510-655-2330
Gallagher & Lindsey		Pacita Dimicali/Dave Park	Rockridge Realty		Jan Fougner
\$850,000	3250 Central Avenue	3 BD/2 BA	\$499,000	2740 Grant St.	2bd/1ba
Sat/Sun 2-4	East End	510-747-1620/748-1135	Open Sat/Sun. 1-4		510-677-2677
Gallagher & Lindsey		Moon Tam/Eric Tam	Re/Max Executive Berkeley		Betsaida Rosario
\$859,000	1417 St. Charles	2 Units	\$575,000	1013 Addison St.	3bd/2ba
Sat/Sun 2-4	Central	510-814-4815/814-4800	Open Sat/Sun. 2-5	West	510-868-148
Harbor Bay Realty		Nancy Gordon/Janet Iverson	Prudential		Kathleen Crandall
\$949,000	2811 Windsor Dr.	3 BD/2.5 BA	\$575,000	1564 Allston Way	2BD/1BA
Sun 2-4	Fernside Marina	510-814-4845	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133
Harbor Bay Realty		Marilyn Pomeroy	The Grubb Co.		Susie Schevill
\$949,000	918 Lincoln Ave	Tri-plex	\$599,000	1142 Francisco	2+ BD/1 BA
Open Sun 2-4		925-487-4555	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-486-1495
C21 Heritage		Sue Kabalin	Coldwell Banker		Rita Zwerdling

Alameda			Berkeley		
\$990,000	1620 Dayton Ave.	3 BD/2.5 BA	\$635,000	709 Vincente Ave.	3 BD/2.5 BA
Sat/Sun 2-4	Gold Coast	510-814-4899	Open Sun. 2-4	Thousand Oaks	510-814-4899
Harbor Bay Realty		Karen Weiman	Keller Williams Realty		
\$995,000	1337 Sherman St	4BD/3BA	\$639,000	1812 Chestnut St.	3 BD/2 BA
Sun 1-3	Neighborhood	707-965-1905	Open Sun 1-4	N. Berkeley	510-814-4899
Charles Dunn			Allstate Investments		
\$1,250,000	3017 Marina Dr	3BD/3 BA	\$650,000	1421 Northside	3 BD/2 BA
Sun 2-4	Fernside Marina	510-814-4709	Open Sun. 2-4:30		510-814-4709
Harbor Bay Realty		Marilyn Schumacher	Red Oak Realty		
\$1,398,000	612 Fortress Isle	4+BD/3+BA	\$650,000	1626 Acton	3 BD/2 BA
Sun 1-4	So. Shore	510-769-0581	Sun. 2-4:30	North Berkeley	510-814-4709
Century 21 LandMark Excellence			Coldwell Banker		
Albany			Berkeley		
\$434,900	535 Jackson St. Unit B	2bd/2ba	\$675,000	1435 Campus Dr.	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 2-4		510-292-2013	Sun. 2-4:30	No. Berkeley Hills	510-814-4899
Red Oak Realty		Todd Andrew	Berkeley Hills		
\$499,000	926 Masonic	2bd/1ba	\$699,000	1745 Francisco St.	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 2-4		510-524-8508	Open Sun 2-4		510-814-4899
Jeans Realty		Diane Deutsche	Coldwell Banker		
\$559,000	939 Key Route Rd	2BD/1BA	\$725,000	1011 Keith Avenue	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sat/Sun. 2-4		510-280-2145	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4899
Red Oak Realty		Virginia Jones	The Grubb Co.		
\$765,000	1131 Portland Ave.	3BD/2 1/2 BA	\$769,000	1188 Keeler Ave.	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun 1-4		415-986-6312	Open Sun. 2-4		510-814-4899
North Beach Properties		Rick Durazzo	Red Oak Realty		
Berkeley			Berkeley		
\$1,150,000	956 Arlington Ave.	4bd/2+ba	\$795,000	1415 Alcatraz	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 2-4	Berkeley Hills	510-428-0900	Open Sun. 2-4	(2 houses on 1 lot)	510-814-4899
Prudential		Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine	Thornwall Properties		
\$1,850,000	1395 Grizzly Peak Blvd.	4+bd/2.5ba	\$799,950	2005-07 Delaware	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30	Berkeley Hills	510-834-2010	Open Sun. 1-4		510-814-4899
Prudential Cal. Realty		Henriette Lanier-Green	Coldwell Banker Bartels		
\$250,000	2550 Dana St. #2E	1bd/1ba	\$895,000	635 San Fernando Avenue	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 2-4	(Senior 55+ Co-op)	510-848-1950x235	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4899
Thornwall Properties		Nancy Foss	The Grubb Co		
\$250,000	2550 Dana St. #7C	1BD/1BA	\$975,000	1215 Monterey Ave.	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun 2-4		510-338-1363	Open Sun. 1-4		510-814-4899
Pacific Union		Leslie Easterday	Zip Realty		
\$359,000	1825 Vine St. Unit#6	1bd/1ba	\$1,100,000	2328 Channing Wy	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 2-4		510-280-2178	Open Sun. 2-4		510-814-4899
Red Oak Realty		Grace Bishop	Red Oak Realty		
\$459,000	2632 Warring St., #4	2BD/1BA	\$1,175,000	781 Spruce	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sunday, 2-4:30		510-773-4614	Open Sun 2-5	Berkeley Hills	510-814-4899
Keller Williams			Coldwell Banker	Kim & Barbara	
\$485,000	1116 Harrison Street	1+BD/1BA	\$1,289,000	941 Creston Rd	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun 2-4:30	Westbrae	510-655-2330	Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4899
Rockridge Realty		Jan Fougner	Millstein & Associates		
\$499,000	2740 Grant St.	2bd/1ba	\$1,350,000	2322/2322 1/2 Stuart St.	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sat/Sun. 1-4		510-677-2677	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4899
Re/Max Executive Berkeley		Betsaida Rosario	Pacific Union		
\$575,000	1013 Addison St.	3bd/2ba	\$1,375,000	136 Panoramic Way	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sat/Sun. 2-5	West	510-868-148	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4899
Prudential		Kathleen Crandall	The Grubb Co		
\$575,000	1564 Allston Way	2BD/1BA	\$1,395,000	958 Kingston	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-652-2133	Open Sun 2-4:30		510-814-4899
The Grubb Co.		Susie Schevill	Pacific Union		
\$599,000	1142 Francisco	2+ BD/1 BA	\$1,399,000	2919 Fulton St.	3 BD/2 BA
Open Sun 2-4:30		510-486-1495	Open Sun 12:30-4		510-814-4899
Coldwell Banker		Rita Zwerdling	Coldwell Banker		

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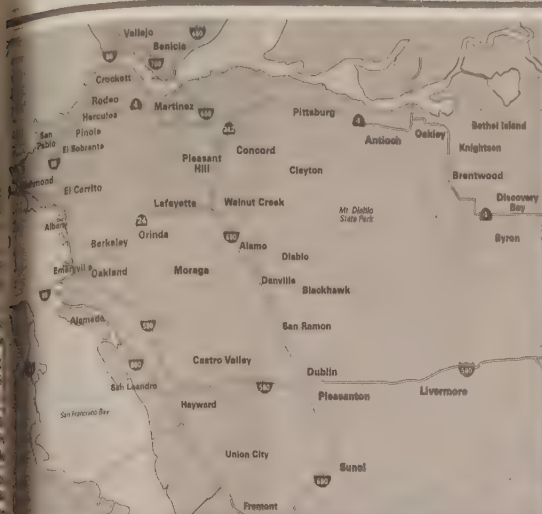
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Pacific Union GMAC
Jeannie Anderson

El Cerrito

444,000 1326 Everett 2+BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4
Oak Realty
Catherine Stern

448,000 1312 Norvell 3bd/1.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Coldwell Banker Bartels
Michael Smith

447,000 1320 Gayle Ct. 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Marvin Gardens
Melissa Elzenberg

447,000 762 Norvell Street Duplex
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Wells & Bennett Realtors
Frank Hennerfer

448,000 509 Sea View Dr. 2bd/1.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Marvin Gardens
Celia Concus

448,000 537 Albemarle St. 3bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Marvin Gardens
Barbara Kaplan

448,000 2328 Carquinez Ave. 4bd/2+ba
Open Sun. 1-4
El Cerrito Hills
Deb G.

448,000 717 Balra Dr. 5bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Marvin Gardens
Scott Ward

448,000 8535 Betty Ln. 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Security Pacific R.E.
www.geristern.com

Sobranite

448,000 4848 Morwood Dr. 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Marvin Gardens
Marni Fischer/Jean Shrem

448,000 221 Amend Ct. 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 1-4
Marvin Gardens
Doris Alexander

448,000 6400 Hillside Dr. 4+bd/3ba
Open Sat/Sun 1-5
Prudential
Areta Crivellari

448,000 5245 San Pablo Dam Rd. 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 (4-Plex)
Keller Williams Realty
Mary Lou Martin

448,000 51 La Paloma Ct. 5 BD/3 BA
Open Sat & Sun 2-5
Gallagher & Lindsey
Pacita Dimacali

Emeryville

448,000 5907 Vallejo #B 2BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Pacific Union
Kathy Flynn

Hayward

448,000 29423 Middleborough Way 2 BD/2 BA
Open Sun. 1-4 Mobile Home
Keller Williams
Tere Lee

448,000 614 Atherton Place 3BD/3BA
Open Sat 12-4 & Sun 2-5
Keller Williams Realty
Shrina Choung

Kensington

448,000 117 Lawson Rd. 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Weinstein & Assoc.
Sheri Madden

448,000 137 Purdue Ave. 4+BD/3BA
Open Sun. 2-5
Coldwell Banker
Barbara Allendorf

Lafayette

448,000 4 Leeward Glen -BD/-BA
Open Sun. 1-4
Coldwell Banker
Karen Ritzinger

448,000 3911 Happy Valley Rd. 4BD/6BA
Open Sun. 1-4
Coldwell Banker
Jerlynn Babington

Moraga

448,000 176 Shuey Dr. 3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4
Oak Oak Realty
Daniel Lopez

448,000 29 Via Barcelona 5+ BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 1-4:30pm
Keller & Associates
Kathie & Patrick Ng

Oakland

448,000 6036 Contra Costa 4+BD/4BA
Open Sun. 2-5
Rockridge Upper
Lols Harris

448,000 150 Pearl St. #312 1BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Commonwealth Co.
Wen Tung

448,000 2000 101st Avenue 2BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30pm
Marvin Gardens Realty
Anne Ayankoya

448,000 6304 Monadnock Way 2BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30pm
Wells & Bennett Realtors
Heidi Kearsley

448,000 250 Montecito #203 1+BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30pm
Prudential
John Wesley

Oakland

\$595,000 9401 Murillo Ave. 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oak Knoll
Better Homes Montclair
Sue Caro

\$599,000 4053 Everett 2BD/1BA
Open Sun. 1-4:30 Glenview
Coldwell Banker
James Brown

\$599,000 4130 Bayo Ct. 2+BD/1.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Laurel
Pacific Union
Jeanine Weller

\$599,000 438 East Merle Ct. 3bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Broadmoor
Better Homes Montclair
Earlie Shenko

\$599,000 4601 Manila 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Temescal
Thornwall Properties
Colleen Larkin

\$619,000 505 Fairmount Ave. Duplex
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Alain Pinel Realtors
Sarah Schisler

\$629,000 26 Ramona Ave. 3bd/1.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Piedmont Ave.
Better Homes Montclair
Nahid Nassiri

\$629,000 4044 Midvale 2BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Redwood Heights
Pacific Union
Cindy Houts

\$639,000 4089 Waterhouse 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4
Re/Max Dolphin
Linda Matly

\$649,000 29-31 Rio Vista Duplex
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Piedmont Avenue
Pacific Union
Joan Dark

\$649,000 384 Palm Ave 2+BD/3+BA
Open Sun. 2-5
ASSIST-2-SELL
510-336-9999

\$649,000 4138 Eastlake Ave. 3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun. 1-5 Redwood
Coldwell Banker
Donno Conroy

\$649,000 4965 Desmond St. 2+bd/1.5ba
Open Sun. 2-5 Rockridge/Temescal
Prudential
Anita

\$649,000 55 Chadbourne Way 3+BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Crestmont
The Grubb Co
Michael Friedman

\$650,000 8926 Thermal Street 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Wells & Bennett Realtors
Rita Robinson

\$669,000 24 Joaquin Miller Ct. 3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Pacific Union
Wendy Gardner-Ferrari

\$675,000 5508 Broadway 3+bd/1.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Rockridge
Prudential
Brian Santillana

\$679,000 274 Covington St. 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 1-4 Sheffield Village
Pacific Union
Michelle Miller

\$679,000 4021 Lyman Rd. 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakmore
Montclair Better Homes
Patricia Bennett.com

\$679,000 558 Clayton Ave. 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Coldwell Banker
Gene Della Maggiora

\$679,000 6665 Girvin Dr. 3+BD/2BA
Sat & Sun 2-6 Montclair
Prudential
Erik Johnson

\$690,000 4266 Knoll Ave. 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-5
Fresco Prop. Inc.
Gordon Yamamoto

\$699,000 3140 Gulin St. 2BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Redwood Heights
Pacific Union
Diane E. McCan

\$699,000 4661 Park Blvd. 3BD/1.5BA
Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
Julie Joyce/Nancy Maloney

\$699,000 469 McAuley St. Duplex
Open Sun. 2-5
Prudential
Scott Thompson

\$725,000 1415 Barrows Road 2BD/1BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Trestle Glen
Prudential
Jane Flint

\$729,000 5533 Taft Avenue 3+BD/1+BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Rockridge
The Grubb Co
Carolyn Jones

\$739,000 3217 Telegraph Ave. 2BD/1BA
Sat & Sun 2-4 Duplex
R. W. Chabot Highland
Renee Terrell/Jewell Terrell

\$749,000 379 Staten Ave. DUPLEX
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Adams Pt.
Montclair Better Homes
Arnold Muller

\$749,000 453 McAuley St. 3+bd/2+ba
Open Sun. 1-4 Rockridge
Prudential
Roy Grigsby

\$749,000 5763 Florence Terr. 4BD/3BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
Peter Nicolopoulos

\$769,000 1225 90th Ave. 4-Plex
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Better Homes Montclair
Lila Owens

\$789,000 6662 Liggett 3+BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Pacific Union
Sandi Klemmer

\$790,000 321 Perkins St. 1/bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-5 Lake Merritt
Prudential
Mayling Trinh

\$795,000 99 Hamilton Place 4bd/3ba
Open Sun. 1-4 (Triplex) Adams Pt.
Prudential
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine

\$795,000 842 Creed Road 3BD/1.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands
The Grubb Co
Anthony Riggins

\$799,000 4755 Geranium Pl. 4BD/3BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakland Hills
Coldwell Banker
Ruby Ng

\$829,000 2 Melvin Ct. 3+bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakmore
Montclair Better Homes
Regina Jacobs

\$829,000 6435 and 6437 Irwin Court Duplex
Open Sun. 2-4:30 North Oakland
Wells & Bennett Realtors
Anne Manley

\$849,000 149 Maiden Lane 3BD/2BA
Sun 2-4:30 Lincoln Highlands
Prudential
David Otero

\$849,000 1885 Grand View Dr. 2+BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4
Coldwell Banker
Holly Rose

\$857,000 711 Cariston Ave. 3+bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Red Oak Realty
Saraya Motley

\$889,000 215 Athol Ave. Triplex+
Open Sun. 2-4 China Hill
Prudential
Kathy Dittmer

Oakland

\$899,000 8245 Skyline Circle 3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakland Hills
Wells & Bennett Realtors
Jaya Bhimani

\$929,000 1858 Melvin Rd. 4bd/3ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakmore
Montclair Better Homes
PatriciaBennett.com

\$939,000 6457 Colby St. 3BD/2+BA
Open Sat & Sun 1-4
Pacific Union GMAC
Patricia Scott Winslow

\$945,000 8285 Skyline Cir. 4bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakland Hills
Re/Max E.Bay Hills
Wayne Wilkerson

\$955,000 815 Paloma Ave. 3BD/2+BA
Open Sun. 1-4
North Beach Properties
Rick Durazzo

\$969,000 8265 Skyline Cir. 4bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakland Hills
Re/Max E.Bay Hills
Wayne Wilkerson

\$1,025,000 30 Starview Dr. 3+BD/2.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Hiller Highlands
Pacific Union
Joanna Hirsch

\$1,050,000 719 Longridge Rd. 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands
Coldwell Banker
Dian Hymer & Joan Duffield

\$1,075,000 375 Somerset Rd. 4 Units
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Valva Realty
510-451-7317 x22
Paul Valva

\$1,130,000 6669 Sobranite 3BD/2.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
Haldeh Chew

\$1,149,000 7260 Homewood 4BD/4.5BA
Open Sun. 1-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
Leslie Wei

\$1,190,000 2630 Mountain Blvd 4bd/4.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4 Montclair
Marvin Gardens
510-527-9111
Nic Tang

\$1,195,000 140 Florence Ave. 4bd/3.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4 Rockridge
Maison Nouveau
510-849-9900
Tory Finn

\$1,199,000 7001 Eleverton 4BD/3BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
Reva Tolbert & Preston Grant

\$1,295,000 6194 Mazuela Drive 4BD/4BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
The Grubb Co
510-339-0400
Carol Brown

\$1,295,000 6845 Oakwood Dr. 3BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 1-4 Montclair
C21 Heritage
510-339-8900 x304
Cathy Truelove

\$1,295,000 8 Dorothy Place 4BD/3BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
The Grubb Co
510-339-0400
Debra J. Dryden

\$1,349,000 32 Cathy Ln. 4+BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Alain Pinel Realtors
510-899-8000
Deborah Riney

\$1,395,000 83 Castle Park Way 3+BD/3+BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Piedmont Pines
The Grubb Co
510-339-4000
Anne Feste

\$1,398,000 174 Alta Rd 3+bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge
Prudential
Heidi Marchessotti

\$1,499,000 6267 Ruthland Rd. 3BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
David Eckert

\$1,599,000 6171 Ruthland Rd. 4BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Coldwell Banker
Judy Ackerman

\$1,650,000 7075 Broadway Terrace 4BD/4BA
Open Sun. 1-4 Montclair
Empire Realty Associates
925-217-5030
Robin Miles

\$1,695,000 175 Villanova Drive 3BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair
Wells & Bennett Realtors
510-700-2551
Mary Neuberger

\$1,795,000 5801 Buena Vista Avenue 4BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge
The Grubb Co
510-339-0400
Elizabeth Dickson

\$1,950,000 5747 Buena Vista Ave. 5+BD/3+BA
Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge
Prudential
Heldi Marchessotti

\$2,380,000 140 Estates Dr. 4++bd/4.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Piedmont
Better Homes Montclair
Nahid Nassiri

\$3750,000 1555 Grandview Drive 3++bd/1+ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Oakland Hills
The Grubb Co
510-339-0400
Debra J. Dryden

Orinda

\$1,790,000 20 La Cinita 4BD/2.5BA
Open Sun. 1-4
Coldwell Banker
510-547-1615/421-9000
Jerlynn Babington

Piedmont

\$859,000 16 Nace Ave. 2+BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-5
Pacific Union
Vicki Woodhead

\$949,000 260 Wildwood 3++bd/1+ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30
Prudential
Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine

\$1,175,000 134 Ricardo Avenue 3BD/2BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
The Grubb Co
Mavis Delacroix

\$1,275,000 25 Portsmouth 4BD/2+BA
Open Sun. 2-5
Prudential
510-428-0900

\$1,275,000 25 Portsmouth Rd. 4 BD/2.5 BA
Open Sun. 2-5
Prudential Cal Realty
David & Claire Cunningham

\$1,295,000 1400 Oakland Avenue 3+BD/2.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
The Grubb Co
Mindy Scott

\$2,500,000 211 Crocker Avenue 4BD/3.5BA
Open Sun. 2-4:30
The Grubb Co
Mindy Scott

\$2,695,000 84 Cambrian Ave. 5bd/5+ba
Open Sun. 2-5
Prudential
Scott Thompson

Richmond

\$419,500 3511 Barrett Ave. 2bd/2ba
Open Sat/Sun. 1-5 North&East
Help U Sell Berkeley
Jerri

\$439,000 3433 Rheem Ave. 3bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-5 North&East
Marvin Gardens
510-524-0800
Mark P. Choi

\$449,000 5920 Burlingame Ave. 2BD/1BA
Open Sat & Sun 1-4 Richmond Annex
Keller Williams
515-724-5495
Ed Broberg

\$458,988 5101 Esmond 3bd/1ba
Open Sun. 1-4 Richmond View
Security Pacific R.E.
www.cynthiaburke.com

Richmond

\$460,000 691 McLaughlin 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4 Richmond View
Thornwall Properties
510-848-1950x240
Colleen Larkin

\$465,000 1922 Florida Ave. 2BD + 1BD
Open Sunday 1-5 Duplexes
ASSIST-2-SELL
510-336-9999
Agent

\$479,000 1401 Santa Clara Street 3BD/1BA
Open Sun. 1-4:30pm
Better Homes Realty
Anne Ayankoya

\$479,000 6001 Columbia 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4 Richmond Annex
Security Pacific R.E.
510-524-1112
Kevin Tannahill

\$489,988 920 Yuba St. 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 1-4
Security Pacific R.E.
www.cynthiaburke.com

\$498,988 6098 Raiston Ave. 2+bd/3ba
Open Sun. 1-4
Security Pacific R.E.
www.cynthiaburke.com

\$499,000 2816 San Mateo 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Red Oak Realty
510-280-2158
Jose Fernandez

\$499,000 5920 Burlington Ave. 2BD/1BA
Open Sat & Sun. 2-4 Richmond Annex
Keller Williams Realty
415-724-5495
Ed Broberg

\$529,000 991-37th St. 3bd/2ba
Open Sun. 2-4 North&East
Prudential Cal. Realty
510-858-1404
Phina Christentry

\$545,000 5733 Fresno Ave. 2bd/1ba
Open Sun. 2-4:30 Annex
Coldwell Banker Bartels
510-303-6245
Sil Addiego

\$599,000 6039 Park Ave. 3bd/3ba
Open Sun. 2-4
Marvin Gardens
510-527-2700x33
Juliana Wymberg

\$665,000 3946 Selmi Grove 4bd/2.5ba
Open Sun. 2-4 Country Club
Coldwell Banker Bart

ALAMEDA



1126 MOUND STREET \$649,500
East End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 First time open on this updated 2 bedroom, 1 bath East End location home. New roof, foundation, refinished hardwood floors, central heating with air conditioning, freshly painted interior, new dual pane windows, must see, won't last long.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108



1019 TAYLOR AVENUE \$839,000
West End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Queen Anne ready to sparkle. Victorian legal duplex used as single family home with separate living unit. Many architectural details. 2 units, 2 kitchens, 2 living rooms, 2 full baths, 2 half baths, 2 garages, 4 bedrooms, High ceilings, tall windows, newly refinished wood floors. Many bonus rooms with room for expansion in full basement. Waiting for Victorian lover to restore its glory.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Dave Park 510-748-1198



2511 EAGLE AVENUE \$619,000
East End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This home located at the East End of Alameda has been updated from top to bottom. Roof, foundation, carpets, plumbing, electrical, double pane windows, water heater are all new. 2+ bedroom and 2 bath home in a quiet cul-de-sac. Freshly painted interior and exterior. There is a private outdoor area for children to play, BBQ or enjoying your morning coffee.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-747-1620
Eric Tam 510-748-1135



3260 CENTRAL AVENUE \$820,000
East End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Well kept 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Built-in china cabinet. Newly remodeled kitchen with Zodiac counter top. Large front and back yard. Solar system, attached 2 car garage with long driveway. Must see!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-747-1620
Eric Tam 510-748-1135



1713 OAK STREET \$649,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This 3+ bedroom and 1.5 bath home shows pride of ownership. This home supports a newer foundation, roof, gutters/downspouts, freshly painted throughout, new carpeting upstairs and the grounds have been freshly landscaped. It has a brick fireplace in living room. Close to transportation and Park Street. Move-in condition!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108



1143 CAMINO DEL VALLE \$495,000
Bay Farm Island Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
 Bright and clean 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath home in move-in condition. Great neighborhood and a courtyard setting with lawn & trees in front. A private patio and a 2-car garage complement this beautiful home. New kitchen appliances. Close to schools and shopping. Community clubhouse with swimming pool.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-748-1166



1032 COURT STREET \$669,000
East End Open Sunday 1-4
 Light and bright spacious home located in the desirable East End of Alameda. Completely remodeled in 2005 with 3 bedrooms and two full baths. Modern kitchen with granite counter tops, new cabinets, gas stove and dishwasher. Great location near schools and transportation.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Kurt Jacobsen 510-748-1173
Sonia Lastreto 510-748-1110



1623 MORELAND DRIVE \$795,000
Fernside Open Sunday 2-4
 Charming Fernside Tudor with vaulted ceilings in living room, newly refinished hardwood floors, 3 bedrooms and 1.5 baths. Split level home with one bedroom on main floor. This house has it all! Location! Location! Location!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Alice Garvin 510-748-1116



3 MASTICK COURT \$495,000
West End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 A great starter home! Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow, plus den, in a cul-de-sac. Bright and cheerful, approximately 1,019 sq ft. Freshly painted bathroom, fenced rear yard, partially finished full basement for extra storage and attached garage. A diamond in the rough conveniently located in the East End
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Shon Slaughter 510-748-1172
Doreen Turnage 510-748-1156



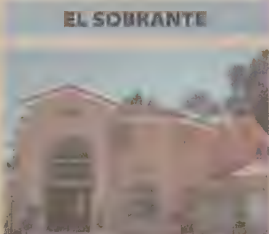
1906 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,590,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 This impressive home offers you the charm of the past combined with modern upgrades. Located in Central Alameda, this Victorian is a beautifully restored Eastlake Mansion, originally constructed in 1884, now features 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths in the main house, plus 2 bedrooms and 1 bath in the rental unit, 4-car garage plus office space. Call to see this grand mansion.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Dave & Donnee Hankel 510-301-4963



2629 EAGLE AVENUE \$850,000
East End By Appointment Only
 Wonderful large corner lot triplex. Located in the East End, these units have 3 garages, large basement, new roof, exterior paint, sewer lateral and much, much more.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jack Cooley 510-748-1109
Moon Tam 510-747-1620



147 HERITAGE PARK DRIVE \$749,000
Heritage Park Coming Soon
 This contemporary duet with 3 bedrooms and 2.5 baths is just steps from the pool and clubhouse in the desirable and quiet "Heritage Park" neighborhood, close to Blackhawk. Having nearly 2000 sq ft, this elegant home offers a light and bright entry, spacious living room and master suite with vaulted ceilings and a spacious loft off the master suite wired for a home office or retreat.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189



51 LA PALOMA COURT \$968,000
El Sobrante Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 A taste of Tuscany in El Sobrante! Stunning brand new home. Dramatic architecture features 2-story entry, foyer, living room. Many luxurious amenities throughout. Maple wood floors in formal living, dining and family rooms. Extensive marble, granite. Deck overlooks hills, own greenbelt. 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3-car garage. 3210 sq ft of living space.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148



6151 OAKDALE MILLMONT \$595,000
Millmont Open Sunday 2-4
 Come wake to the sounds of songbirds in this beautiful 4 bedroom, 2 bath home in this lovely Millmont neighborhood. The wooded setting can be enjoyed from the expansive front deck. The home features breathtaking views, a remodeled kitchen, huge game room (ready for expansion), new carpet and paint.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Nations 510-748-1161

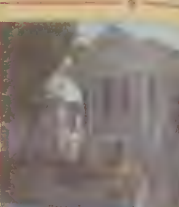


2018 FILBERT STREET \$500,000
West Oakland By Appointment Only
 Classy old lady dressed up - ready for new tenants and owner. Duplex with new electric, new paint, new flooring, new bath and kitchens....come and see!
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Stan Lockhart 510-748-1805

OAKLAND



1934 22ND AVENUE \$449,000
East Oakland By Appointment Only
 Money - Money - Money! 6 bedrooms and lot. Great price and close to everything.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1108



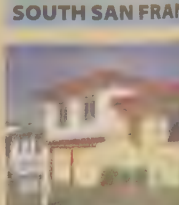
2319 E 22ND STREET \$649,000
East Oakland By Appointment Only
 Opportunity knocks! Victorian duplex and coming neighborhood with potential additional units (buyer to verify with City of Oakland). This painted lady is in fine shape with a 3/1 and 2/1 down
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
James Collins 510-748-1108



13559 SYCAMORE \$1,590,000
Patterson Open Sunday 1-4
 Approximately 15 acres of flat ground with a large main house of about 3800 sq ft that was built in 1910 and extra living space of about 1200 sq ft across driveway. There is a fenced horse area adjacent to main house.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Joe LoPano 510-748-1108
Mario & Wendy Mariani 510-748-1108



1900 WESTERN DRIVE \$239,000
Floating Home By Appointment Only
 Breathtaking views surround this lovely home at Point San Pablo Yacht Harbor. This spacious home has a second floor master suite with connecting plus room, washer and dryer bathroom also on this floor. First floor corner galley kitchen and living area with wood stove. New roof. With 25% down, owner's balance. Dock fees \$667 per month.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Angela McIntyre 510-748-1108



11 ALTURA WAY \$649,000
Buri-Buri Open Sunday 2-4
 A wonderful Buri-Buri family home with 3 bedrooms and 1 bath in a great location that is close to everything - BART, Schools and shopping. This home has been freshly painted inside and out, has new hardwood floors, a new roof and a finished basement. It also has a large yard perfect for gardening and family fun.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ty Weichart 510-748-1108



1776 CLARKE STREET \$449,000
San Leandro By Appointment Only
 A rare find indeed! This 4 bedroom, 3 bath home contains a lot of features. New roof, painting exterior paint and kitchen counter tops. Full basement. Garage comes with a long driveway and an auto gate. Has a large front and back yard to BART, shopping and freeways.
 www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-748-1108

Gallagher & Lindsey

REALTORS®

Training the "Wright" way

Agents at Gallagher and Lindsey receive intensive and ongoing training in all areas of real estate, but the majority of their education consists in learning how to market properties to increase seller and buyer awareness. One major advantage that Gallagher and Lindsey has over other agencies is an in-house team responsible solely for agent training.

Tim and Karen Wright, vice presidents of agent development and training, make sure every agent receives top-notch training in how to enhance the listing process, whether it's from a professional speaker, an in-house seminar or one-on-one instruction.

"Our agent training focuses on being very proactive in marketing properties," explains Karen Wright. "And while there are several sophisticated marketing techniques to learn, knowing the basics is very important. We recently had a camera workshop taught by a professional photographer to teach our agents how to take the best photo for

enhancing the sale of a home. And next month we're having a home staging seminar led by a well-known author in the field."

Print and Internet marketing is just as vital to getting the word out on a new property. Through our newspaper advertisements, Gallagher and Lindsey reaches over 80,000 readers in the East Bay with prime-space, full-page color ads. Marketing on the Web is so essential that Tim and Karen recently organized a workshop for agents on how best to feature a property online.

But when it comes down to it, the most effective marketing tool is a savvy, hard-working, supportive agent who will work tirelessly for his or her client. "Our agents don't just put a sign in the yard," notes Karen. "They are trained to actively prospect for potential buyers."

To meet with one of the best-trained agents in the East Bay, contact Gallagher and Lindsey at (510)521-8181.



Tim & Karen Wright
 Vice Presidents of agent development & training

More than 10,000 active listings in 7 counties!

- ◆ Search in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino & Solano counties
- ◆ View more photos, virtual tours and review property disclosures online
- ◆ Schedule a showing appointment online 24/7
- ◆ Receive Daily Emails for your specific search
- ◆ Find out about free real estate seminars in the East Bay
- ◆ Check out Karen & Tim's real estate career section and course calendar

www.GallagherandLindsey.com

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SPORTS

• Friday, August 5, 2005 •

Section C

Fajardo healthy again, ready to run junior golf event

Director of Grizzlies Junior Classic also will see two sons compete in the tourney at Tilden Park

By Robert Jordan
STAFF WRITER

When Jim Fajardo took over the Grizzlies Junior Classic last year, it was a way for him to oc-

cupy his time while he recovered from cancer and perforated ulcers. Now a year later, Fajardo is fully recovered and has no plans of turning over the annual golf tournament held at Tilden Park Golf Course.

"My kids wanted to play and I realized I could help," said Fajardo, who is a battalion chief for the Richmond Fire Department. "I was sick last year, and one

thing that helped me recover was visualizing my kids playing golf. I think it is wonderful to see all these kids out there."

Fajardo will see a lot of junior players on Monday and Tuesday at the ninth annual Grizzlies Junior Classic.

The 36-hole, stroke play tournament had 180 golfers registered to play — as of Tuesday — coming from as far north as

Chico and as far south as Fresno.

Among those competing are Fajardo's sons Michael, an incoming senior at Acalanes High School, and Nicholas.

Michael, who helped the Dons to their first California Interscholastic Federation Northern California Regional appearance in May, just missed qualifying for the First Tee Open by one stroke in early July.

If he had qualified, Michael would have been playing at Pebble Beach on Monday, but instead he will defend his 15-to-17-year-old boys division title that he won last year.

Last year's girls champion in the same division, Michelle Hatushi of Danville, withdrew from this year's event.

Other notables schedule to play include Campolindo's

Daniel Cone, the two-time Diablo Foothill Athletic League Most Valuable Player, California's Eric Crociata, Berkeley's John Hassey and Piedmont's Lawrence Fu.

"I see (my kids) going off to college pretty soon and somehow I see myself continuing to do this," Jim Fajardo said. "The talent these kids have is really incredible."

Ex-Albany coach gets S.E. St. job

By Curtis Pashelka
STAFF WRITER

Four months after parting ways with the Albany High School girls basketball team, Joaquin Wallace was hired as the new women's basketball coach at his alma mater, San Francisco State, earlier this month.

Wallace is the first African-American, male or female, to coach the Gators, who limped to a 7-20 record in 2004-05 and an eighth-place finish in the California Collegiate Athletic Association (6-14).

"It's surreal. I still can't believe that I'm coaching a university program," Wallace said. "I had to keep pinching myself for the first week I was here. But now I'm focused. I'm confident we can get the job done."

Wallace left Albany in March after leading the Cougars to a 20-9 record and a spot in the North Coast Section Division III quarterfinals.

Wallace had a 36-22 record in two seasons, helping the Cougars advance to the playoffs both years.

FISHING REPORT

PACIFIC OCEAN

Robert Gallia of the charter boat *El Dorado* reported that the weekend of soft salmon scores — less than a fish per rod — resulted from the dead calm coastal conditions and the lack of drift. The calm conditions hampered the Berkeley Mooring fleet's ability to work the area of scattered fish from the Channel buoys to Duxbury. However, things appeared to change Tuesday as the dead calm conditions gave way to bigger and better tides with a gentle ocean breeze. The fleet's scores rebounded to more than a fish per rod, with large fish being the majority. Many of the skippers reported salmon ranging from 15-25 pounds. A more encouraging sign Tuesday was that most of the big salmon were new arrivals from the North as evidenced by their bright red shrimp diet color.

James Smith of the charter boat *California Dawn* has seen plenty of success along the Marin Coast the last few days. Tuesday and Wednesday alone, Smith and his clients brought in 57 rockfish limits (57lb), 38 ling cod, 23 halibut and one striped bass. One of those halibut, caught by Danyil Newcombe of Sacramento, weighed in at 40 pounds.

THE BAYS

SAN FRANCISCO: EmeryvilleSportfishing.com said the Bay Area salmon fleet experienced a very slow weekend all around. Private boats did post a few good scores, but for most it was about a fish per rod average with a few boats lucky or patient enough to get limits. Waiting for the next open-bound school to arrive with the bigger tides later this week, the bulk of the fleet is fishing from the Channel Buoys to the Middle Grounds and up to Duxbury. Most boats reported scores of under 12 fish per boat on Sunday.

Party boats out of the Emeryville Sport Center mixed things up in a big way. The Dandy and Rapid Transit started the day salmon fishing, then split off for rockfish with one running to the Islands and the other up the Marin Coast. The two boats combined for six salmon, 223 rockfish and two ling cod. The other seven boats ran Marin Coast and Farallon Island rockfishing trips with stops along the way at Seal Rock and the North bar for halibut. They landed 170 limits of rockfish, adding 24 halibut and 88 ling cod.

SUISUN: Jordana Santiago of Martinez Bait and Tackle reported that the fish are out there, but they aren't jumping in the boats. The Month Fleet has been particularly quiet, but several fish are there if anglers go to the colder waters at

See FISHING, Page 2



JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO/STAFF

HERCULES HIGH'S Donnette Baker hopes participation in Starlings helps her get a college scholarship.

A chance for city girls to join the club

Starlings program makes club volleyball affordable and promotes 'life skills' for those less fortunate

By Jonathan Okanes
STAFF WRITER

OAKLAND — Flip through the players' biographies in the media guide of any self-respecting NCAA Division I women's volleyball team and often it will include the club program for which the athlete played.

Earning a Division I women's volleyball scholarship is virtually a lost cause without playing for a club. But such clubs can cost a couple thousand dollars per year, sometimes making it difficult for girls from urban families to get that exposure.

Enter the Starlings Volleyball Club, a program designed for girls who can't afford the more mainstream clubs. Started in 1996 in San Diego, Starlings has become a nationwide network that now consists of 40 clubs across the country.

Included in that network is the Starlings Volleyball Club of Oakland, a program that has been around since 1998 providing an opportunity for girls mostly from lower-income families.

"We provide opportunity for these kids to play club volleyball

without any reservations about money or status or prestige," Oakland Starlings program director Lisa Busbee-Young said. "The bias of having a high income or status — those things are there. But we just try to let them know that through hard work and perseverance, they can get there, too."

Oakland's Starlings have produced four athletes who have earned Division I scholarships, including current Coppin State right side hitter Danyel Davis. Starlings competes in the same junior tournaments as the more well-known clubs in the area, such as the Golden Bear Volleyball Club of Berkeley or Delta Valley Volleyball Club of Stockton.

"Sometimes we walk into a tournament and we get looked down upon because we have poor girls," Busbee-Young said. "The girls can feel really self-conscious."

Said club founder and president Lee Wagner: "Whenever the Starlings walk into a tournament, they stick out like a sore thumb."

Wagner's daughter, Asha, attended Oakland High School and played for the Golden Bear Volleyball club in the early 1990s. He said at the time, only two girls in the entire Oakland Athletic League played club volleyball.

Wagner read a story about Starlings in Volleyball Magazine and inquired about starting up a



JOSE CARLOS FAJARDO/STAFF

LISA BUSBEE-YOUNG, director of Starlings Volleyball Club of Oakland, tells players they can succeed through work and perseverance.

program in Oakland.

"It became apparent to me that if a girl wanted any chance of getting a scholarship to college for volleyball, they had to play club," Wagner said. "That's where they get their skills and that's where the recruiters come."

Busbee-Young hopes Rich-

mond's Donnette Baker becomes the fifth Starling to earn a scholarship. Baker, who will be a senior at Hercules High this season, joined Starlings this year with the hopes of improving her skill level and getting seen by a college coach.

"We don't really have a lot of recruiters coming to our school,

so this is a great opportunity for me to get looked at," Baker said. "Other clubs are thousands of dollars. Starlings is a way for all of us to be able to play. A lot of girls don't have this opportunity."

The average fee for a Starling is about \$300 per year, and the

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 2

WHAT'S HAPPENING

To submit an item to the What's Happening calendar, e-mail sports@cctimes.com to request a form. Put "What's Happening" in the subject line. Nonprofit organizations only. You may be asked to submit a copy of your 1099 or 501(c)(3) to verify nonprofit status. Entries are edited for content and are published as space is available.

BASKETBALL

- **East Bay Explosion** — Skills clinic for girls, grades 4-8, 9 a.m.-noon, Aug. 8-12 at Alameda Naval Air Station Gym in Alameda. Campers will be working with some of the top high school players in the Bay Area. \$185. Mark Anger, 209-380-5440; Sarah Burns 925-677-5364. Visit www.leagueineup.com/ebx
- **Excellence in Basketball** — Cur-

- rently taking sign-ups for competitive boys club teams, grades 6-12, that play squads from throughout the East Bay. Scholarships offered for hardship cases. Bob 925-736-8741, elbcoach@aol.com.
- **Richmond PAL** — Signups for 11th annual Jumpers R Us youth summer basketball camp, ages 6-16, through Aug. 5, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Kennedy High School, 4300 Cutting Blvd., Richmond. NBA surprise guests and camp counselors will provide instruction in basketball fundamentals. \$100-\$150. 707-432-1467, jumpersrus20@aol.com
- **Unity in the Community Golf Tournament** — Tournament to benefit "Positive Directions Equals Change," Sept. 17, 10 a.m. at Chuck Corica Golf Complex, Alameda. Proceeds go

FUND-RAISER

- to addressing drug, alcohol and violence issues in some African American communities in the East Bay. \$120 includes lunch, golf cart and prizes. Cedric Akbar, 415-401-0199 or 415-740-5587; Lee Boone, 415-740-5591.
- **Bay Regional Golf Tournament** — 68th annual, 72-hole medal play tournament for championship (5.4 and under) and handicap (5.5 and over) flights takes place Aug. 6 and 7. \$5,000 in prizes, 100 NCGA points to the winner. 510-848-7373 or visit www.tildenparkgolfclub.org.
- **Alameda Contra Costa Youth Soccer League** — Open tryouts for Mavericks Aztecs 13U team 8-9 p.m. Mon-

- days-Fridays at team practices, Kennedy High School, 4300 Cutting Blvd., Richmond. Players must be born after July 31, 1993. Karl, 510-528-5526 or Malamud_Roam@hotmail.com.
- **Hayward Lady Wolfpack Fastpitch** — Looking for players, 16U and 18U, for fall season. Call for tryout information. 510-317-1710. Visit www.ladywolfpack.org
- **Kings Valley Christian School** — Coaching vacancies at Concord school for these junior high sports: girls and boys soccer and basketball and boys softball. Ed Daley, 925-567-6570, principal@kvcs.com.
- **California High School** — Coaching vacancies in the following sports:

- head varsity and junior varsity boys water polo, head varsity and junior varsity girls tennis. Fred Albano, 925-866-8933, fabano@servusd.k12.ca.us.
- **Cornerstone Christian High School** — Vacancies for coaching positions for upcoming school year: head/assistant boys basketball coach, assistant girls basketball coach, head/assistant baseball coach, head/assistant softball coach. Applicants must have Christian ethics. Logan Heyer, 925-754-1241 ext. 335.
- **Contra Costa Football Officials Association** — Looking for officials to serve high schools and youth sports in the greater Contra Costa area for upcoming season. No experience required, training meetings currently taking place. John Nardi, 925-366-6962. Visit www.ccofoa.com.

HOW TO REACH US

Results, reports and press releases on local sports teams, leagues, organizations and events can be e-mailed to the following address:
hillsports@cctimes.com
Representatives from organizations within the circulation of the Alameda Journal, Contra Costa Voice, El Cerrito Journal, Montclair and Piedmont are encouraged to submit items to address.
For questions, please call 748-1662 or 510-262-2774.

Fishing

FROM PAGE 1

depths of about forty feet or so. Grass shrimp and anchovies have both served well recently. Santiago expects the tides for the upcoming weekend to improve the conditions.

Of the fish reported this past week, Steve Burnett of Martinez hauled in a 65-pound sturgeon in San Pablo, and Rich Suppan of Rancho Cordova had a 4 1/4-pound halibut near Seal Rock.

THE RIVERS

SACRAMENTO RIVER, REDDING: Kirk Portocarrero of Outdoor Adventures Sport Fishing said that the King Salmon fishing is off to a slow start but is expected to go from fair to fantastic at any moment. On Aug. 1, the Balls Ferry area in Anderson opened and produced a modest catch of a couple of fish per boat. According to Portocarrero, fish and wildlife biologists say that as many as 1 million salmon are expected to return to the river this year. In the meantime, fly fishing and drifting for rainbow trout has been excellent.

Portocarrero and his clients are producing many nice rainbows ranging from 2-6 pounds. Most of the success has come drifting between Anderson and Redding and using Pheasant tail Nos. 14-16 and Micro Mayfly Nymphs. Spin fishing has been good, using big bugs and crickets.

FEATHER RIVER, ORVILLE: Portocarrero and his clients are picking up some nice salmon using Flatfish lures and bouncing rod.

THE DELTA

David Dutra of Gotchal Bait and Tackle in Antioch said it's been touch-and-go throughout the delta. Strippers are showing up near Rio Vista and on the Antioch Pier. In going after the strippers, anglers are having the most success using pile worms and sardines. John Normandin of Antioch recently caught a 3 1/2-pound stripper using sardines off the pier. Martin Clark of Antioch caught a 3 1/4-pound large mouth bass on shad at Mayberry Slough. Dutra also said that Whiskey Slough has been a good place to hit for both catfish and black bass. When going for catfish, try clams, mackerel and chicken liver. The bluegill fishing is real good throughout the delta right now.

THE LAKES

LAKE CHABOT, CASTRO VALLEY: The staff at Lake Chabot reported that the catfishing action improved a lot from the past couple weeks. Anglers are leaving the lake with several limits of catfish. Fishing near Indian Cove with mackerel and nightcrawlers, one family went home with three limits of catfish.

Lake Chabot continues to stock the lake with catfish, and will do so until the lake temperature cools down. Currently the lake temperature is 70 degrees. The warm water temperatures is keeping the trout fishing fairly slow. However, trolling at depths of about 25 feet near the dam has yielded trout for a few anglers.

Bass action remains steady from the past couple of weeks. A lot of small bass are still all over the lake. Although there are plenty of trophy size bass, no one seems to be landing any. When going after bass, the most success has come from using crankbaits and worms.

In addition to Indian Cove, there are several reports of good catfish action happening by the first dock closest to the marina in the early evening time. Some of the other good catfishing spots are back in Bass Cove, Honker Bay and across from Raccoon Point.

LOS VAQUEROS, BRENTWOOD: The staff at Los Vaqueros said that the bass and catfish action has been pretty fruitful. There has been a great early morning and late evening top water bite for bass. Try throwing buzz bait to locate fish and then work the area slowly with popper or plastics after getting a first strike. Catfish are being caught over the whole lake, but the south end is producing most of the action. Anglers fishing with anchovies have been reporting limits of 2-4 pound fish. Livermore's Dillard Wangles caught and released an 8-pound catfish while fishing in the south end with anchovies.

As for trout, there is still some action happening. Plan on fishing between 30 and 50 feet deep, bait fishing or trolling. Bait fishing is yielding between one to two fish per rod, and trollers are reporting as many as three per rod. Trolling nightcrawlers and flashers around the deep coves of Heron Bay has seen success, and an inflated nightcrawler topped with a fluorescent yellow Power Egg is the hot setup for bait fishing.

LAKE DEL VALLE, LIVERMORE: The staff at Lake Del Valle said that a developing trend has been the heavy use of attractants in going after trout. Slightly murkier water may mean the fish have to rely on their sense of smell more heavily, which would make sense that those using attractants are seeing more action. Marina staff reports both Pautzke's gel and liquid krill to be solid choices. As for location, the South Cove is happen-

ing, as is Oak Point and just about anywhere in between. Look for deeper water as well and bring your strong casting arm.

The bass fishing has tapered some. The bites from the rock wall seem to have slowed, however standard protocol still applies. Give them an aggressive approach early on and then ease out into something a little slower. Dropshotting worms is a great technique for late afternoon. Catfish action spiked this past weekend with a number of cats being pulled in on anchovies, chicken livers and nightcrawlers.

SAN PABLO RESERVOIR, EL SOBRANTE: The staff at San Pablo Reservoir said anglers still are finding decent action during the mornings and in the afternoons, especially with the upturn in catfish action. Catfish are biting all over. The Main Reef, The Tower, the Launch, and even Bobber Beach are all producing nice size cats. Nightcrawlers are your bait of choice, but chicken livers and anchovies are also working. The catfish seem to be 10-plus pounds.

As good as the catfish are biting, it's the opposite for trout. Bait fishing from the boat has been tricky, with the fish that are caught biting on Rainbow Power Bait very early in the morning. Two fish per rod should be considered a good day. Trolling for trout can also yield success early in the morning. Consider using heavy lures with extra weight and flashers. Bass continue to bite in Scow Canyon and near the Dam. They are more aggressive in the morning, so use your more aggressive baits then. Crankbaits are good for this. Back off a little later in the day to a more slowly presented setup. The bass range in size at San Pablo, but there seems to have been a rash of largemouth caught in the 8-10 pound range as of late.

— Compiled by Chace Bryson

Volleyball

FROM PAGE 1

club doesn't turn away anyone. If a girl can't afford the yearly fee, she can make up the difference by participating in the club's many fund-raisers.

Starlings also receives grants from such organizations as the Women Sports Foundation and locally-based Team Up for Youth, which donated \$20,000 to the program last year. "To be honest, I never thought about putting Donnette in a club," Baker's mother, Gina, said. "I've been very impressed with the club, especially compared to the fees charged by other clubs. When I heard about how much money the other clubs are, I just thought, 'Wow.' You're getting just as good training and coaching and paying next to nothing compared to all these thousands of

dollars."

Pittsburg's Bethany De Los Reyes spent the past four years with Starlings but now is off to Fordham University in the fall. She won't be playing volleyball for the Rams, but she said she thought Starlings at least gave her an opportunity to be seen before a broken ankle wiped out her senior season at Encinal High.

"There's no way we could have afforded Golden Bear or anything like that," De Los Reyes said. "That was way too much for me. Starlings gave me the same exact experience at a lower cost."

Starlings faces its share of challenges, such as trying to secure practice sites. Reserving gym space can be costly, and there is a lot of competition for facilities. Busbee-Young also said there is a high attrition rate because of the stresses facing inner city girls.

"Not to take anything from any other kid, because teens have stresses in life they may not be the things that can mount up and make you stop going to school," Busbee-Young said. "Our kids go through their neighbors getting shot, their brother is doing drugs, their mother is an alcoholic."

While many clubs ask for their birth certificate when they sign up so it can be placed in the proper age division, Starlings asks for a report card. Club places a strong emphasis on school, monitoring the progress and sometimes tutoring a homework session. "We do a lot of confidence building as well as skill building in volleyball," Busbee-Young said. "We want to promote life, so they can make good choices in life."

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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. Reviewers are Mary R. Pols, Times; Robert W. Butler, San Jose Mercury News; David Germain, Christy Lemire, Associated Press; Anita Gates, Dave Kehr, Laura Korn, A.O. Scott and Dana Stevens, New York Times; Jami Bernard and Jack Matthews, New York Daily News; Nick Krone, Bob Strauss, Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Carina Chocano, Kevin Crust, Manohla Dargis, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Ed Bark, Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Tom Maurstad, Chris Vogner, Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Jay Boyar and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Carla Meyer, Sacramento Bee; Ty Burr, Wesley Morris, Boston Globe; Ann Hornaday, Stephen Hunter, Michael O'Sullivan, Desson Thomson, Washington Post.

"BAD NEWS BEARS": A new version of the classic 1976 Walter Matthau comedy, which used to be rewatched by my generation, not remade. Billy Bob Thornton is a good choice as the misanthropic gruff Morris Buttermaker, and the casting of the kids is almost all first-rate, with the exception of Sammi Kane Kraft in the Tatum O'Neal role. The original was both crude and funny, but the humor in director Richard Linklater's version revolves on the brink of bad taste: very "Bad Santa" (in which Thornton also starred). — M. Pols. (PG-13: rude behavior, language throughout, some sexuality, thematic elements.) 1 hour, 51 minutes. B-

"BATMAN BEGINS": Director Christopher Nolan supplies the backstory behind not just the Batmobile, but the very psyche of the Caped Crusader. The story starts slowly and temporarily gets bogged down in psychological drivel before turning into a very dark and fun action movie. Christian Bale is a natural, just weird enough to be the best Batman yet, and the strong supporting cast includes a lovely turn by Michael Caine as the trusted butler Alfred, as well as Morgan Freeman as gadget man Lucius Fox. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense action violence, disturbing images and some thematic elements.) 2 hours, 10 minutes. B+

"THE BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY": Life in postwar South Vietnam wasn't very good for most people. But it was particularly hard for the children of American servicemen. This film charts the course of one such young man

(played by newcomer Damien Nguyen) with sensitivity, some generic hand-wringing and, ultimately, a gentle steeliness. It's one of those specific stories that touches universal notes all the way along. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, children in jeopardy, racism, drug use, sexuality.) 2 hours, 5 minutes. B

"BEWITCHED": Disappointing, but what did we expect? The sitcom it's based on was magic in its own time, and though director Nora Ephron, who also doctored the script, tries to inject new energy, she's defeated by a plot that has nowhere to go. Moreover, Nicole Kidman, channeling Meg Ryan cuteness and doing a breathy Marilyn Monroe voice, is nowhere near as endearing as our beloved Samantha. Will Ferrell has some fun moments. — M. Pols. (PG-13: some language, including sex and drug references, partial nudity.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. C

"THE BEAT THAT MY HEART SKIPPED": Curiously enough, a French remake of an American film, James Toback's "Fingers," set this time in Paris instead of New York. Roman Duris plays a young slumlord who would prefer to be a concert pianist like his dead mother than a thug like his father (Niels Arrestrup). Directed by Jacques Audiard ("Read My Lips"), who has made a more subtle, moving and optimistic film than Toback's original. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 47 minutes. B+

"CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY": Tim Burton's take on Roald Dahl's book is darker, stranger and way cooler than the 1971 Gene Wilder cinematic classic. Visually it's all Burton, a fairy tale come to life. Johnny Depp's Willy Wonka is like a cross between Michael Jackson and Carol Channing, which sounds terrifying, but is instead captivating. A don't-miss summer movie that should live on for decades to come. — M. Pols. (PG: quirky situations, mild language.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. A-

"CINDERELLA MAN": An out-of-season treat. Russell Crowe is in Oscar-worthy form as the humble boxer Jim Braddock, who, like Seabiscuit, provided inspiration for Americans during the Depression. The film was directed by Ron Howard, whose interest in inspiration tends to grate. Yes, this is, like "A Beautiful Mind," an inspirational story, but Howard excels in telling of Braddock's gloomier times; that's the material that sticks and, thankfully, it's never maudlin. Paul Giamatti is winning in the role of Brad-

dock's trainer, with Renee Zellweger as the boxer's devoted wife. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense boxing violence, some language.) 2 hours, 22 minutes. A-

"CRASH": In the course of 24 hours, a group of Los Angeles residents wrestles with the demons of racism. Writer/director Paul Haggis (screenwriter of "Million Dollar Baby") wants to provoke a serious discourse, a noble goal. But the movie is heavy-handed, and, despite some brilliant scenes and strong acting from a great ensemble, is riddled with mistakes, particularly coincidences that border on the absurd. Ultimately, Haggis insults his audience by assuming he has to instruct us on everything about racism, as if merely to be alive in America today weren't already a primer. Still, flaws and all, well worth seeing. — M. Pols. (R: language, sexual content, some language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. B-

"CRONICAS": In this sometimes savvy media melodrama, John Leguizamo plays Manolo Bonilla, the charismatic star reporter for a tabloid investigative news show. A swaggering little fame-monger ablaze with ambition, Manolo descends with his producer and cameraman on a dirt-poor Ecuadorian village in time to film an emotional and violent episode. The film explores the ratings-hungry values of tabloid TV, but by the end inches toward the sort of exploitation it condemns. — S. Holden. (R: violence and profanity, in Spanish with subtitles.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. C+

"DARK WATER": Jennifer Connelly stars as a possibly psychologically disturbed woman who has terrifying real visions involving demonic plumbing fixtures and floods of Coca-Cola-colored water in her grim apartment building. But her problems run deeper than that. Shortly after mother and daughter move in, Ceci (Ariel Gade) starts having conversations with an imaginary friend. — M. O'Sullivan. (PG-13: language, frightening images, intensity.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. B-

"THE DEVIL'S REJECTS": Rob Zombie's latest — about a white-trash family of homicidal maniacs — is a deafening, repetitive, gratuitous assault, where victims are tortured and blood is shed, all to a Southern-rock soundtrack. Every other word is a four-letter one. All the women are whores, or they're treated like whores, or they just dress like whores. All this is just Zombie — the heavy-metal star turned writer-director — displaying a lack of effort. — C. Lemire. (R: sadistic violence, strong

sexual content, language, drug use.) 1 hour, 41 minutes. D-

"ENRON: THE SMARTEST GUYS IN THE ROOM": An eye-opening film that puts the whole Enron scandal into focus. One that will likely have you stomping about afterward in righteous indignation at the crimes perpetrated by these corporate scoundrels. Cleverly done, too, with a terrific soundtrack. — M. Pols. (NR) 1 hour, 49 minutes. B+

"FANTASTIC FOUR": This big-screen adaptation of the Marvel Comic superhero story line is rarely terrible or memorable. Four astronauts return from space, where they were exposed to cosmic radiation, with new abilities. This film has very little of the epic gravitas or moral complexity that distinguish the best superhero movies. That would be fine if it were an overflowing boatload of fun. But it's not. — C. Vogner. (PG-13: comic book violence, suggestive content.) 1 hour, 46 minutes. C

"HAPPY ENDINGS": From director Don Roos ("The Opposite of Sex"), an ensemble dramedy about the reproductive misadventures of a group of connected Angelenos. It's clever and well-acted, but sometimes too precious; Roos relies too much on smarty-pants chapter headings to tell his story. Lisa Kudrow plays an abortion counselor who provides the link between the characters. Tom Arnold is surprisingly touching as a rich guy being suckered by a bad girl, played by Maggie Gyllenhaal. — M. Pols. (R: sexual content, language, some drug use.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. B-

"HERBIE: FULLY LOADED": Lindsay Lohan plays the famed VW Bug's new owner, Maggie Peyton, a recent college graduate with fantasies of being a NASCAR driver. The film floats by on a pleasant cloud of nostalgia, partly for the Herbie some of us loved as kids, partly for the lost youth of Lohan, seen here in all her curvy, red-headed loveliness before her recent transformation to blond stick figure. — M. Pols. (G) 1 hour, 35 minutes. B-

"HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE": This animated film, which boasts emotional depth and mind-bending visuals, is mostly for adults. But by all means take the kids, even though they may have a hard time following the plot. The wizard Howl (Christian Bale) lives in an ambulatory home with a door that opens into any number of exits, including both sides of an ominously brewing war. Along the way, Howl's haunt picks up a straggler, Sophie (Emily Mortimer), a youngster transformed into an elderly

OPENING TODAY

"BROKEN FLOWERS" (R)
Bill Murray plays an aging playboy who goes in search of old girlfriends who might have had his child 19 years ago. With Jessica Lange, Tilda Swinton and Sharon Stone.
"THE DUKES OF HAZZARD" (PG-13)
The old television show gets a movie version, with Johnny Knoxville, Seann William Scott and Jessica Simpson as the fun-loving

Duke cousins.

"THE EDUKATORS" (R)
Three German activists hatch a kidnapping plot involving a wealthy businessman. In German with subtitles.

"SECUESTRO EXPRESS" (R)
An upper-class Venezuelan couple undergo a harrowing experience when they are kidnapped in Caracas and held for ransom. In Spanish with subtitles.

"HUSTLE & FLOW": Memphis pimp DJay Terrence Howard, in a career-making performance) dreams of becoming a rapstar like his childhood acquaintance (Ludacris). DJay's talent is questionable and his goals unrealistic, but writer/director Craig Brewer sucks us into this world with ease. The marvelous supporting characters include Anthony Anderson and DJ Qualls as fledgling music producers and Taryn Manning and Taraji P. Henson as hookers. Brewer chokes on the predictable ending, but the ride there is so good, it hardly matters. — M. Pols. (R: sex, drug content, pervasive language and some violence.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. B+

"THE ISLAND": The stuff summer movies are made of — a big, trashy and overdone, the perfect project for director Michael Bay. But the plot of this science-fiction thriller is engaging. Ewan McGregor is quite good as a man who learns the terrible truth about his reason for existing, and in the end, this is escapist fare at its limited but entertaining best. Scarlett Johansson is the love interest. — M. Pols. (R: sex and drug content, pervasive language, some violence.) 2 hours, 7 minutes. B

"LAST DAYS": Gus Van Sant's latest is a pretentious yet oddly riveting look at the end of Kurt Cobain's life. The lead character is named Blake, but it's the late Nirvana lead singer and the mystery surrounding his suicide are clearly the inspiration. With Michael Pitt ("The Dreamers") as the singer. — C. Lemire. (R: language, some sexual content.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. C

"LILA SAYS": Chimo, the young Arab Frenchman in director Ziad Doueiri's romantic drama, tells us his life is changed when he meets Lila, a blond sexpot who is "hot enough to provoke wars." In this respect, Doueiri's second movie recalls the naughty-mindedness of 1998's "West Beirut," his earlier and much better coming-of-age yarn. Otherwise, this is an underdeveloped exercise in carnal awakening that thinks its characters are far more special than they ever prove to be. — W. Morris. (Not rated: strong sexual situations; in French with subtitles.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. C-

"MADAGASCAR": DreamWorks' latest computer-animation suffers from narrative and character malnutrition, but has enough wordplay, visual gags and character nonsense to keep us chuckling and occasionally roaring. A hippo, giraffe and lion give chase when their friend Marty the zebra (Chris Rock) escapes the Central Park Zoo. They wind up washed ashore on a tropical island, where they befriend a tribe of parodying lemurs and face Alex the lion's emerging carnivorous instincts. — R. Butler. (PG: mild language, crude humor and some thematic elements.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. C+

"MR. & MRS. SMITH": Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie face off in this high-gloss, high-caliber domestic squabble. Husband and wife are both assassins, but it's only after John Smith tries to kill the same bad guy his wife is gunning for that they learn each other's secret. The great screen chemistry between Pitt and Jolie and the movie's treatment of marriage as the ultimate form of combat makes the entertaining bauble it is. — B. Newman. (PG-13: violence, sex, partial nudity.) 1 hour, 59 minutes. B

See REVIEWS, Page C4

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Showtimes for Friday August 5

Alameda County

Art and 2
1200 Center Street, Berkeley 510-464-5980
• **The Edukators** (R) 8, 10
• **Me and You and Everyone We Know** (R) 12, 20

Liberty Twin
1150 Soledad Ave., Albany 510-464-5980
• **The Beautiful Country** (R) 2, 5, 8
• **March of the Penguins** 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 6:15

AMC Bay Street 16
1400 Belmont St., Emeryville 510-457-4262
• **Batman Begins** (PG-13) 2, 5, 8, 11
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 12:30, 3:15, 5:50, 8:20, 10:50

• **Fantastic Four** (PG-13) 1:30, 2:35, 4:15, 5:15, 6:50, 7:50, 9:50, 10:20
• **Hustle & Flow** (R) 1:40, 2:30, 4:20, 5:20, 7:05, 8:10, 10:45
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 5:15, 6:40, 7:20, 7:45, 8:15, 9:40, 10:25, 10:55
• **Must Love Dogs** (PG-13) 12:45, 2:05, 3:35, 4:40, 5:45, 7:10, 8:10, 9:45, 10:30
• **War of the Worlds** 1:30, 4:10, 7:35, 10:15

California Theatre
2010 Middle St., Berkeley 510-464-5980
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 12:15, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15, 7, 8, 9, 30
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 12:30, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40

Chabot Space & Science Center
10000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7300
• **Cosmic Voyage** (Not Rated) 10:30, 2:30
• **Forces of Nature** (Not Rated) 12:30, 8
• **The Human Body** (Not Rated) 4
• **The Living Sea** (Not Rated) 11:30, 7
• **Robotman** (Not Rated) 1:30, 6

Renaissance Grand Lake
2200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** 1, 4, 7, 15, 8:45
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 8:45

• **Must Love Dogs** 11:45, 2:15, 4:30, 7, 8:15
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10

Oaks Theatre
1705 Soledad Avenue, Berkeley 510-464-5980
• **Bad News Bears** (PG-13) 1:45, 4:20
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 7:10, 9:30
• **Must Love Dogs** (PG-13) 2:40, 7, 9:20

Parkway Speakeasy Theatre
1304 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400
• **Batman Begins** (PG-13) 9:15
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 6:30
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 8:45

Piedmont Theatre
4100 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-464-5980
• **Happy Endings** (R) 2, 10, 5, 8
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 2:40, 7, 9:25
• **March of the Penguins** (G) 12:30, 2:35, 4:45, 7, 15, 9:35

Regal Jack London
1200 Washington Oaks, Oakland 510-433-1320
• **Charlie** 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10, 30, 11
• **Howl's Moving Castle** 11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7, 9:55
• **Fantastic Four** (PG-13) 1:10, 4:20, 7, 9:55

• **Hustle & Flow** 11:40, 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
• **Must Love Dogs** 11:45, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40
• **Sky High** (PG) 11:35, 2:05, 4:35, 7:05, 9:35
• **Stealth** (PG-13) 11:30, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30
• **War of the Worlds** 12, 2:40, 5:20, 8, 10:40
• **Wedding Crashers** 11:15, 2, 4:45, 7:35, 10:35

Shattuck Cinemas
2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-464-5980
• **Crash** (R) 1:35, 4:15, 6:50, 9:20
• **Enron** (Not Rated) 1:20, 4, 6:40, 9:10
• **Happy Endings** (R) 2, 5, 8
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 1:30, 4:10, 6:45
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (Subtitled) (PG) 9:25
• **Hustle & Flow** (R) 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45
• **Machuca** (Not Rated) 1:25, 4:05, 7:15, 9:50
• **Mad Hot Ballroom** (PG) 1:45, 4:20, 6:55, 9:35
• **Murderball** (R) 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, 9:40
• **Saraband** (R) 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
• **Sky High** (PG) 2:10, 4:30, 7, 9:15

United Artists Berkeley 7
2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-1487
• **Batman Begins** 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (PG-13) 12, 12:45, 2:30, 3:15, 5, 5:45, 7:30, 8:15, 10, 10:45
• **The Island** (PG-13) 1, 4, 7, 10:20
• **Stealth** (PG-13) 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40
• **War of the Worlds** 1:10, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 2, 4:40, 7:40, 10:30

United Artists Emery Bay
6300 Christie Ave., Emeryville 510-420-0107
• **Bad News Bears** (PG-13) 12:45, 4
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 11:50, 12:40, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8, 10, 10:40
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (PG-13) 12, 1, 2:30, 4, 5, 7:15, 8, 10, 10:45
• **March of the Penguins** 12:15, 2:10, 4:15, 7:10, 9:20
• **Mr. & Mrs. Smith** (PG-13) 7, 9:45
• **Sky High** (PG) 11:45, 12:30, 2, 2:45, 4:40, 5:20, 7:10, 7:45, 9:30, 10:20
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 11:45, 1:10, 2:20, 4:10, 5:10, 7, 7:45, 9:45, 10:40

Renaissance Orinda Theatre
4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-0900
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30
• **Howl's Moving Castle** (PG) 1:45, 4:15, 6:45
• **The Island** (PG-13) 9:15
• **Must Love Dogs** (PG-13) 12, 2:15, 4:30, 7, 9:15

Renaissance Park Theatre
3519 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette 925-283-7997
• **March of the Penguins** (G) 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 4:45, 7, 15, 9:35
• **Rheem All Stadium 41**
350 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (PG-13) 12, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10
• **Sky High** (PG) 12:15, 2:45, 5:05, 7:40, 9:55
• **Stealth** (PG-13) 12:05, 2:30, 5, 7:35, 9:50
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 12:10, 2:40, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop
3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-2345
• **Bad News Bears** (PG-13) 11:10, 1:45, 4:25
• **Batman Begins** (PG-13) 6:50, 9:55
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 11:25, 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:25
• **The Devil's Rejects** (R) 7:10, 9:30
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (PG-13) 11:30, 12:15, 1:15, 2, 2:45, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:15, 7, 7:45, 8:45, 9:40, 10:15
• **Fantastic Four** (PG-13) 11:45, 2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 10
• **Hustle & Flow** (R) 11, 1:40, 4:20, 6:55, 9:45
• **The Island** (PG-13) 12:45, 4, 7:05, 10:10
• **March of the Penguins** (G) 11:05, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:15, 9:35
• **Must Love Dogs** (PG-13) 11:20, 12:20, 1:55, 3, 4:30, 5:25, 8, 10:20
• **Sky High** (PG-13) 12:10, 2:35, 5, 7:25, 9:50
• **Stealth** (PG-13) 11:35, 12:30, 2:15, 3:15, 5, 6, 7:40, 8:40, 10:30
• **War of the Worlds** (PG-13) 11:50, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 11:15, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05

San Francisco

AMC Van Ness 14
1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262
• **Bad News Bears** 11:10, 1:40, 4:15, 7, 9:30
• **Batman Begins** (PG-13) 11:05, 2:15, 5:30
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 12:10, 2:50, 5:35, 8:15, 10:50
• **The Devil's Rejects** (R) 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (PG-13) 11:15, 12:15, 2, 3, 4:45, 5:45, 7:30, 8:30, 10:15, 11:15
• **Hustle & Flow** (R) 12:05, 2:40, 5:20, 8:10, 11
• **The Island** (PG-13) 1, 4, 7:15, 10:10
• **Must Love Dogs** 12:20, 2:35, 5, 7:20, 9:45
• **Secuestro Express** (R) 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8, 10:55
• **Sky High** (PG) 1:50, 4:10, 7:05, 10:20
• **Stealth** (PG-13) 11:35, 2:10, 5:40, 8:20, 11:10
• **War of the Worlds** (PG-13) 11:25, 2:25, 5, 7:50, 10:40
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 11, 1:45, 4:30, 7:45, 8:45, 10:30, 11:30

AMC Kabuki 8
1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415-922-4262
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** (PG) 1, 4, 7, 9:50
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (PG-13) 1:45, 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
• **The Island** (PG-13) 1:20, 4:30, 7:45, 10:45
• **Must Love Dogs** (PG-13) 12:45, 3, 5:30, 8:10, 10:30
• **Sky High** (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
• **Stealth** (PG-13) 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 10
• **War of the Worlds** (PG-13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55
• **Wedding Crashers** (R) 2, 5, 8, 10:50

Bridge Theatre
3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-267-4893
• **Me and You and Everyone We Know** (R) 2:15, 4:35, 7, 9:30
• **Custo Theatre**
429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120
Call theatre for movies and times
• **Clay Theatre**
2261 Fillmore Street, San Francisco 415-267-4893
• **March of the Penguins** (G) 12, 2:15, 4:30, 7, 9:15

Embarcadero Center Cinemas
1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-267-4893
• **Broken Flowers** (R) 12, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 5, 6:30, 7:30, 9, 10
• **Happy Endings** (R) 4:10, 7, 9:50
• **Murderball** (R) 12:10, 2:20, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30
• **Saraband** (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:40, 10:10

Lumiere Theatre
1572 California St., San Francisco 415-777-3456
• **Cronica** (R) 4:45, 9:15
• **The Edukators** (R) 2:15, 5, 8
• **Ma Mère** (Not Rated) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:25
• **November** (R) 2:30, 7:15

Opera Plaza Cinema

601 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 415-267-4893
• **Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room** (Not Rated) 9:30
• **Last Days** (R) 4:45, 9:50
• **Mad Hot Ballroom** (PG) 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:20
• **Nina's Tragedies** (Not Rated) 2, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40
• **Rize** (PG-13) 2:15, 7:30
• **The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill** (G) 1:45, 4:15, 7

The Red Vic Theatre

1727 Haight, San Francisco 415-668-3994
• **Kung Fu Hustle** (R) 7:15, 9:25

The Roxie Theatre

3117 16th St., San Francisco 415-663-1087
• **Occupation: Dreamland** (Not Rated) 6:45
• **Or (My Treasure)** (Not Rated) 7, 9
• **The Power of Nightmares** (Not Rated) 8:15
• **Loews Theatres Metreon**
101 Fourth St., San Francisco 415-369-6200
• **Bad News Bears** (PG-13) 10:50, 1:40
• **Batman Begins** (PG-13) 10:45, 5:10, 11
• **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** The IMAX Experience (PG) 12, 3, 6:10, 8, 9:20, 11:10
• **The Dukes of Hazzard** (R) 11:30
• **The Devil's Rejects** (R) 11:10, 12:30, 2, 3:20, 4:50, 6:20, 7:50, 9:30, 10:50
• **Fantastic Four** 11:30, 2:30, 5:40, 8:40, 11:25
• **Hustle & Flow** (R) 12:10, 3:40, 7:20, 10:30
• **The Island** (PG-13) 12:50, 4:30, 7:40, 10:40
• **Mr. & Mrs. Smith** (PG-13) 4:40, 7:30, 10:10
• **Must Love Dogs** 11:50, 1, 2:40, 3:50, 5:20, 9:40
• **Sky High** (PG) 11, 1:30, 4, 6:30, 9
• **Ste**

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD

PUZZLED EXPRESSION By MARK FELDMAN / EDITED BY WILL SHURTZ

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5 Tourer with Carrera and Domingo
14 Genesis event, with "the"
18 Nutcracker doc., e.g.
19 Figg drop?
20 Lower small insects
21 Kowtow
23 Doesn't cry uncle
24 Baskery material
25 One who's far from a fan
27 Like shinking violets
28 Cordovan and kid, e.g.
30 Cauterizers
32 French mathematician
33 Image depicted by this puzzle, after it's solved
34 Throng
38 Some cosmetics
40 Cuneo
41 Fieldhouse team
42 Bidding doors
43 One with a nice bod
44 It has moles: Abbr.
45 While getting there
46 Calendar mo.
47 Not practiced

DOWN

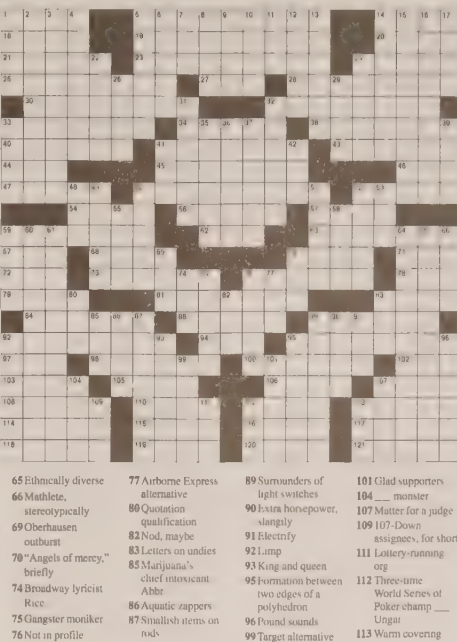
10 Bit of workout gear
12 Symbols of happiness
14 "Hobbit"
15 Something noticed at a fish market
17 Invaluable nutrient
19 Primeval variety
21 Sniff around
23 Refuse receptacle
27 Day's end: Abbr.
28 Spreadsheet fill
30 Fair feature
31 Vane dit
32 Agnus
33 Come out of denial
36 Gershwin musical
38 Ilay contents
39 Jule parts
41 Slight irregularities
43 Run while wet
44 Clavin's cover-up
48 Really roughs up
49 Dignity restorer
52 Thin mug with sharp features
54 Bill of Rights sub
55 Compact things
57 Giant of a Giant
58 Hand holder
100 It's not necessarily the real worth
102 Go for the gold?
103 Heilmann's headache
105 Was in a meet, maybe
106 Take (drop off briefly)
107 Bean source
108 Hair feature
110 Memorable times

ACROSS

112 Senior airman's superior: Abbr.
113 Hindu wonder-worker: Var.
114 Heroine in Buzi's "The Pearl Fishers"
115 Ones in charge: Abbr.
116 Conference start?
117 Regular
118 Novelist O'Brien and others
119 Out-of-commission cruises: Abbr.
120 Operates
121 Feels dizzy

DOWN

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2 She might cite you
3 Commonplace
4 Cork up
5 Look that says nothing
6 Newswall
7 Summe light
8 European river
9 Elms
10 "Our Gang" affirmative
11 We warbler
12 Transparent lunatic
13 Communicate (with)
14 Locking staff
15 Unpleasant short
16 Jack Lemmon's "Days of Wine and Roses" co-star
17 Metallica drummer Ulrich
22 Provocative payee
24 County whose seat is Alamogordo
26 Tamari sauce and the like
29 "The Nazarene" novelist
31 Stacks out significantly
32 Like some blocks
33 Provider of creature comforts: Abbr.
35 Cloverleaf component
36 Water cannon target
37 Twice
39 Goes down
41 Litter box cry
42 "D-OH" person, e.g.
48 Those with clout
49 Title type, often
50 Anatomical dividers
51 Finished off
52 Be humiliated
53 Antenna holder
55 Singer called "The Little Sparrow"
58 First name of "America's Mayor"
59 Give up
60 Afflicted with root rot, perhaps
61 Repeatedly raise the bar?
64 Period of high artistic
75 Gangster moniker
76 Not in profile



Events

FROM PAGE C4

CLOSING — "Improving the Bow Tie: African-American Improvisational Quilts," closing Aug. 7. An exhibit of colorful quilts based on the popular bow tie pattern by 10 African-American quilt makers.

CLOSING — "Second to the Gods," closing Aug. 7. An exhibit of recent gifts from the collection of William K. Ehrhardt, including royal crowns and comets of the Yoruba, thrones, chairs and stools from West Africa, and African fertility objects.

CLOSING — "Oakland Picture Lady," closing Aug. 7. An installation of photographs created by Oakland artist and photographer Traci Bartlow. The images are of the hip-hop scene in East Oakland in the 1980s.

CLOSING — "Spike," closing Aug. 7. A large-scale portrait by Oakland artist Spike. The portrait is a longshoreman at the Port of Oakland in the 1930s known to her coworkers as "Spike."

Free, Tuesday, Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. 3000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. 510-433-2164 or www.mills.edu

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE VILLAGE — A science museum with an African-American focus promoting science education and awareness for the underrepresented. The science village chronicles the technical achievements of people of African descent from ancient times to present. There are computer classes at the Internet Café, science education activities and seminars. There is also a resource library with a collection of books, periodicals and videotapes.

Free, general; \$4 children ages 6 to 18. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. 630 20th St., Oakland. 510-883-6426 or www.ncaifblackeng.org.

THE OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA — EXHIBITS — "The Art of Jukka and Otto Heino, 20th-Century Ceramic Masters," through Oct. 16. An exhibit of 50 of the couple's elegant bowls, plates, platters and tiles, created in the period from 1950 to 1995.

Plant Portraits: The California Legacy — "The California Legacy," through Dec. 4. An exhibit of 80 watercolor/gouache paintings of California wildflowers by the artist.

SPECIAL EVENTS — Free with general admission unless noted.

ONGOING EVENTS — "Online Museum," Thursdays, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the museum's collection on weblogs in the History Department Library.

Current Gallery Tours, Saturday and Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

Art in the Garden, ongoing. Art docents offer a variety of specialized tours focusing on one aspect of the museum's permanent collection. Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. Free with museum admission.

\$8 general; \$5 seniors and students; free children ages 5 and under; free to all on the second Sunday of the month. Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.; first Friday of the month, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. 1000 Oak St., Oakland. 510-238-2200 or www.museumca.org.

THE PARDEE HOME MUSEUM — The historic Pardee Mansion, a three-story Italianate villa built in 1868, was home to three generations of the Pardee family who were instrumental in the civic and cultural development of California and Oakland. The home includes the house, grounds, water tower and barn. Reservations recommended.

\$5 general; free for children ages 12 and under. House Tours: Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. 672 11th St., Oakland. 510-444-2187 or www.pardeehome.org.

UC BERKELEY ART MUSEUM — EXHIBITS — "OPENING" — "Yosemite in Time," Aug. 10 through Dec. 23. An exhibit exploring the history of California's Yosemite National Park through the work of some of America's greatest landscape painters, including Ansel Adams, Carleton Watkins and Eadweard Muybridge.

Gallery Talk, Sept. 15, 5:30 p.m.

Panel Discussion, Oct. 9, 2 p.m.

"Haim Steinbach — Works in Progress: Objects for People/Snapshots," through Sept. 4. A mixed-media installation examining the objects we own and what they reveal about our desires, secrets and self-image.

CLOSING — "Eureka: The Eureka Fellowship Awards 2002-2004," closing Aug. 4. An exhibit of works by 12 Bay Area artists who received The Fleishacker Foundation's Eureka Fellowship, which recognizes artistic excellence and the wide variety of cultures and styles of Bay Area artists.

"Figurations," through Jan. 22, 2006. A changing exhibition of historical and recent paintings, photographs and sculpture that consider the human form in various ways.

"Turning Corners," through Jan. 22, 2006. This exhibition looks at five centuries of innovative art and ideas from around the world through masterworks from the UC Berkeley Art Museum collections. On view are works by artists ranging from Albrecht Dürer, Peter Paul Rubens and Paul Gauguin to Jackson Pollock and Eva Hesse; and recent work by Jeanne Dunning, Xu Bing and Mona Hatoum.

SPECIAL EVENTS — "First Impressions: Free First Thursdays," first Thursday of every month. Special tours and movie presentations. Admission is free.

Guided Tours, selected Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Graduate students from the university's Department of Art History will give tours of featured exhibits.

\$8 general; \$5 seniors, students and youth ages 12 to 18; free children under age 12 and UC Berkeley students; free to all on first Thursday of the month. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. 510-642-0808 or www.bampfa.berkeley.edu.

UC BERKELEY PHOEBE A. HEARST MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY — EXHIBITS — "Tesoros Escondidos: Hidden Treasures from the Mexican Collections," through Dec. 23. An exhibit of

250 works from Mexico, including ritual objects, clothing, textiles, pottery, utensils, folk toys, miniatures and folk art.

"Native California Cultures," permanent exhibit. This is an exhibit of some 500 artifacts from the museum's California collections, the largest and most comprehensive collections in the world devoted to California Indian cultures. The exhibit includes a section about Ishi, the famous Indian who lived and worked with the museum. Yana tribal baskets and a 17-foot Yurok canoe carved from a single redwood.

"Recent Acquisitions," ongoing. The collection includes Yurba masks and carvings from Africa, early-20th-century Taiwanese hand puppets, textiles from the Americas and 19th- and 20th-century Tibetan artifacts.

\$4 general; \$3 seniors; \$1 students ages 13 and over; free for children ages 12 and under; free to all on Thursdays. Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 4 p.m. 103 Kroeber Hall, Bancroft Way and College Avenue, Berkeley. 510-643-7648 or http://hearstmuseum.berkeley.edu.

UC BERKELEY MUSEUM OF PALEONTOLOGY — EXHIBITS — "Tyrannosaurus Rex," ongoing. A 20-foot-tall, 40-foot-long replica of the fearsome dinosaur. The replica is made from casts of bones of the most complete T. Rex skeleton yet excavated. When unearthed in Montana, the bones were all lying in place with only a small piece of the tailbone missing.

"Pteranodon," ongoing. A suspended skeleton of a flying reptile with a wingspan of 22 to 23 feet. The Pteranodon lived at the same time as the dinosaurs.

"California Fossils Exhibit," ongoing. An exhibit of some of the fossils that have been excavated in California.

Free. Hours vary during summer and holidays. During semester sessions,

hours generally are: Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. Lobby, 1101 Valley Life Sciences Building 4780, University of California, Berkeley. 510-642-1821 or www.ucmp.berkeley.edu.

USS HORNET MUSEUM — Come aboard this World-War-II aircraft carrier that has been converted into a floating museum. The Hornet, launched in 1943, is 699 feet long and 27 stories high. During World War II she was never hit by an enemy strike or plane and holds the Navy record for number of enemy planes shot down in a week. In 1969 the Hornet recovered the Apollo 11 space capsule containing the first men to walk on the moon, and later recovered Apollo 12. In 1991 the Hornet was designated a National Historic Landmark and is now docked at the same pier she sailed from in 1944. Today, visitors can tour the massive ship, view World-War-II-era warplanes and experience a simulated aircraft launch from the carrier's deck. Exhibits are being added on an ongoing basis. Allow two to three hours for a visit. Wear comfortable shoes and be prepared to climb steep stairs or ladders. Dress in layers as the ship can be cold. Arrive no later than 2 p.m. to sign up for the engine room and other docent-led tours. Children under age 12 are not allowed in the Engine Room or the Combat Information Center.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS — "The 442nd Regimental Combat Team Exhibit," ongoing. The 442nd RCT was a segregated Japanese American Army unit that won fame in World War II in Europe and was the most decorated unit, man for man, in U.S. military history. The exhibit will cover not only the war years of 1941 to 1945, but also the Japanese detention camps and the postwar years. In addition, it will address the 6,000 Japanese Americans that served in the Pacific war as members of the Military Intelligence Service.

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"Black Aces Squadron Ready Room," ongoing. The room is dedicated to the Black Aces, a U.S. Navy Superhornet squadron that has been flying missions and fighting over Iraq.

"Navy Fighter and Attack Squadrons," ongoing. This exhibit provides the background for the historical planes on the ship.

SPECIAL EVENTS — "Limited Access Day," ongoing. Due to ship maintenance, tours of the navigation bridge and the engine room are not available. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. \$5 per person.

"Flight Deck Fun," ongoing. A former Landing Signal Officer will show children how to bring in a fighter plane for a landing on the deck then let them try the signals themselves. Times vary. Free with regular Museum admission.

"Protestant Divine Services," ongoing. Hornet chaplain John Berger conducts church services aboard The Hornet in the Wardroom Lounge. Everyone is welcome and refreshments are served immediately following the service. Sundays, 11 a.m.

\$14 general; \$12 seniors, students and military, active or inactive, \$6 youths ages 5 to 18; free children under age 5 with a paying adult; \$5 for everyone on Tuesday. Monday and Wednesday

through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pier 3 (enter on Atlantic Avenue), Alameda Point, Alameda. 510-521-8448 or www.uss-hornet.org.

WESTERN AEROSPACE MUSEUM — The museum features a display of aircraft ranging from World War II to present-day models as well as other historical aviation memorabilia. Among the museum displays are a McDonnell Douglas A-4 Skyhawk from the Vietnam War; a McDonnell Douglas-British Aerospace Harrier; a replica of the Wright Brothers 1911 Vin Fiz, the first plane to be flown across the United States; and a Lockheed Vega, a single-engine plane flown by Amelia Earhart who set speed records in it. The plane is the only Vega in existence with an aluminum fuselage. Also included is a vertical take-off Harrier jet formerly belonging to NASA and the Short Solent, a British-built flying boat. Docent-led tours available by special request.

\$7 general; \$6 seniors; \$5 active military; \$3 children ages 6 to 12; free children under age 5; \$2 per person additional for Short Solent flying boat tour. Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. North Field, Oakland International Airport, 8250 Boeing St., Building 621, Oakland. 510-638-7100 or www.westernaerospacemuseum.org

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JOHNNY KNOXVILLE and Seann William Scott star in the big-screen "Dukes of Hazzard." Don't worry, fans; their car, the General Lee, has not been destroyed.

Dukes' dumb, Daisy dumbfoundingly divine

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

"The Dukes of Hazzard" debuted on CBS in 1979. It aired six seasons, 147 episodes in and then went happily into a perpetual night that is syndication, where it apparently exploded its fan base even further. For the benefit of those who don't yet know, in 1979 — and includes Jessica Simpson, who stars in the new big-screen adaptation — the show revolved around the shenanigans of a pair of good old boy Southernners, Bo Duke, and his cousin Daisy, who used her feminine wiles to get Bo and Luke out of trouble. Longtime fans will be com- to know that the arrival of the 21st century has done nothing to change that basic scenario. Today's cheerfully dumb "The Dukes of Hazzard," Bo (Seann William Scott) and Luke (Johnny Knoxville) are still swillin' moonshine, chasing pretty girls and trying to evade the law, while (Simpson) still looks divine in short shorts.

Though the movie appears to be in the present day, the boys are given up their bright orange 1969 Dodge Charger, which is called the General Lee (Bo's name, Cooter, must use eBay; the production notes observe, "the makes replacement parts for the Charger anymore).

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Dukes of Hazzard" ■ **STARRING:** Johnny Knoxville, Seann William Scott, Jessica Simpson, Burt Reynolds, Willie Nelson

■ **RATING:** PG-13 (sexual content, crude and drug-related humor, language, comic action violence)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 37 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters

■ **GRADE:** C-

■ **ONLINE:** See the movie trailer at ContraCostaTimes.com

Their No. 1 enemy is still villainous county commissioner Boss Hogg, played here by Burt Reynolds — tan, fit and dressed from head to toe in white, which, as an extra in a prison scene helpfully points out, makes him look like a pimp. Boss is involved in a nefarious land-grab scheme, which he has timed to coincide with an annual stock car rally Bo has won for four years running.

As a teenager, "The Dukes of Hazzard" may have been the first television show I found completely unwatchable. Just what was its appeal, anyway? As an adult, I remain baffled, but made a sincere effort to keep an open mind. Cer-

tainly there is some grace to the way the General Lee jumps large objects and sails through the air in a long, slow descent back to Earth. If that is what drew you to the "Dukes" in the first place, rest assured that in 2005, the General Lee takes flight roughly once every 10 minutes.

Affection for the South must have also been a factor, and there is plenty of that present today, with lots of drawling, tobacco chewing, and references to regional staples like ribs and Confederate flags. The ever-popular Willie Nelson is featured in the role of the Dukes' Uncle Jesse, who makes moonshine by the gallon, but likes to step into the smokehouse to take his own personal pleasures (wink, wink). Every time Nelson is called upon to say anything, he tells a series of off-color jokes, as if channeling George Carlin.

Then there's Daisy. Pop/reality TV star Simpson makes her screen debut in the role that fleetingly made Catherine Bach a household name and spawned a fashion trend of cut-off jeans that persists to this day. Her acting range remains untested, but as a vehicle for bikinis and skimpy shorts, Simpson is astounding. Her curves are so tawny, her curls so bouncy, her smiles so sunny that there is nothing to do but concede that plastic has never looked so good. That, and hope that Britney

Spears, who seems to be the target audience for "Dukes," sees the movie and is shamed by Simpson's glossy perfection into retiring her own Daisy Dukes.

What doesn't translate well for modern times is "The Dukes of Hazzard's" abiding sense of lawlessness. Bo and Luke are constantly about to be arrested for some naughty act, and their typical response is to escape in a cloud of dust, hootin' and holle- rin' to beat the band. When they take a road trip to Atlanta (aside from the bloopers at the closing credits, the only part of the movie that comes close to funny), they lead various law enforcement agencies on a series of spectacular car chases.

In the age of media immediacy, well-connected computer systems and helicopter pursuits — to say nothing of the same watchful government that spawned the Patriot Act — all this seems nonsensical. It's as if the filmmakers figured the intended audience would be so happy to see the Dukes again, they wouldn't even notice that they seem like vintage characters in a contemporary setting. The sad thing is, they're almost certainly correct. Ka-ching!

Reach movie critic Mary F. Pols at mpols@cctimes.com or 925-945-4741.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

Compiled from sales at 45 independent bookstores in Northern California.

Fiction

1. "Until I Find You," by John Irving. (Random House, \$27.95.)
2. "The Historian," by Elizabeth Kostova. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.)
3. "No Country for Old Men," by Cormac McCarthy. (Knopf, \$24.95.)
4. "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," by Lisa See. (Random House, \$21.95.)
5. "A Long Way Down," by Nick Hornby. (Riverhead, \$24.95.)
6. "The Mermade Chair," by Sue Monk Kidd. (Viking, \$24.95.)
7. "Zorro," by Isabel Allende. (HarperCollins, \$25.95.)
8. "Gilead," by Marilyn Robinson. (FSG, \$23.)
9. "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown. (Doubleday, \$24.95.)
10. "Eleven On Top," by Janet Evanovich. (St. Martin's, \$26.95.)

Nonfiction

1. "Freakonomics," by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner. (William Morrow, \$25.95.)
2. "1776," by David McCullough. (Simon & Schuster, \$32.)
3. "The World Is Flat," by Thomas L. Friedman. (Farrar, Straus & Giroux, \$27.50.)
4. "Blink," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$25.95.)
5. "French Women Don't Get Fat," by Mireille Guiliano. (Knopf, \$22.)
6. "The Secret Man," by Bob Woodward. (Simon & Schuster, \$23.)
7. "Oh, the Glory of It All," by Sean Wilentz. (Penguin, \$25.95.)
8. "Lance Armstrong's War," by Daniel Coyle. (HarperCollins, \$25.95.)
9. "Everybody Into the Pool," by Beth Lisick. (ReganBooks, \$23.95.)
10. "The Devil's Teeth," by Susan Casey. (Henry Holt, \$25.)

Trade paperback fiction

1. "The Kite Runner," by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$14.)
2. "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," by Mark Haddon. (Vintage, \$12.)

3. "The Secret Life of Bees," by Sue Monk Kidd. (Penguin, \$14.)
4. "The Shadow of the Wind," by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. (Penguin, \$15.)
5. "Snow," by Orhan Pamuk. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
6. "Skinny Dip," by Carl Hiaasen. (Warner, \$12.95.)
7. "The Sunday Philosophy Club," by Alexander McCall Smith. (Anchor, \$12.95.)
8. "The Time Traveler's Wife," by Audrey Niffenegger. (Harvest, \$14.)
9. "The Jane Austen Book Club," by Karen Joy Fowler. (Plume, \$14.)
10. "44 Scotland Street," by Alexander McCall Smith. (Anchor, \$13.95.)

Trade paperback nonfiction

1. "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim," by David Sedaris. (Back Bay, \$14.95.)
2. "The Devil in the White City," by Erik Larson. (Vintage, \$14.95.)
3. "The Tipping Point," by Malcolm Gladwell. (Back Bay, \$14.95.)
4. "Guns, Germs, and Steel," by Jared Diamond. (Norton, \$16.95.)
5. "What's the Matter With Kansas?" by Thomas Frank. (Owl, \$14.)
6. "The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill," by Mark Bittner. (Three Rivers, \$12.95.)
7. "Bad Cat," by Jim Edgar. (Workman, \$9.95.)
8. "Under the Banner of Heaven," by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor, \$14.95.)
9. "Don't Think of an Elephant," by George Lakoff. (Chelsea Green, \$10.)
10. "A Short History of Nearly Everything," by Bill Bryson. (Broadway, \$15.95.)

Mass market paperback

1. "The Rule of Four," by Ian Caldwell, Dustin Thomason. (Dell, \$7.99.)
2. "Trace," by Patricia D. Cornwell. (Berkley, \$7.99.)
3. "Angels & Demons," by Dan Brown. (Pocket, \$7.99.)
4. "Nights of Rain and Stars," by Maeve Binchy. (Signet, \$9.99.)
5. "Illium," by Dan Simmons. (Harper-Torch, \$7.99.)

— Northern California Independent Booksellers Association

'Ugly'

FROM PAGE C8

are American"), at what sounds like a fairly ordinary British college. Daisey, by the way, doesn't do dialects in his monologue, focusing more on the pacing and vocabulary of the story, rather than its sound.

In addition to his school play, Daisey ventures south of the Thames and joins an avant-garde theatrical group that is doing its own version of Caryl Churchill's "Vinegar Tom." The director of the piece augments the author's work with ideas of his own, which include a nine-minute rape scene, which is how Daisey meets and falls for his London girlfriend.

It is only later he learns — becomes that last person in the world to learn — something sig-

nificant about the young woman that colors, but does not end, the relationship.

Daisey's story meanders charmingly through his experiences in London, as well as through the thoughts that played in his mind while he was there. He manages to capture much of the innocence of a 19-year-old, but is also able to put it in a sort of perspective without ruining the charm of the basic story.

Although he claims not to be an actor, Daisey does quite an acting job in this solo show. He creates complex word pictures and manages to convey them beautifully with a minimum of movement. It is only when you reflect on the piece that you realize just how complex it is.

Reach Pat Craig at 925-945-4736 or pcraig@cctimes.com.

Nellie's

FROM PAGE C8

deep-fried Pork Chops (\$14) similar breading, but a concentrated pork-fat taste that can be unpleasantly strong, despite heavy seasoning with black pepper. You'll want to dose them with a big slug of vinegary hot sauce. Fried cornmeal-coated fish (\$15.50 as part of a combination plate with fried chicken) is a little bland, with just the quintessentially rich, fatty taste of catfish. Nellie's is just what you'd think: fried green beans simmered in chunks of potato, sweet and even sweeter yams, and collards. The buttery black beans are my favorite.

Each of the menu's charm is in the daily specials, but — like the daily specials — they sell out fast. A bowl (\$11 for a small bowl) is a Friday visit. With the burnt sugar under its cap and white rice, thick and velvety, it's full of hacked-up

FOOD



(overall value rating of our visit; out of a possible 5)

■ **CUISINE:** Soul food.

■ **PRICES:** \$\$ (entrees \$10.95-\$17.50).

■ **HOME RUN:** Fried Chicken; Sweet Potato Pie.

■ **STRIKEOUT:** None.

chicken legs and backs, and joints of Dungeness crab. It's got the weedy taste of file powder, the green, spicy taste of bell pepper and some of the chicken pieces taste almost smoked from having stuck, at the first stage of burning, on the bottom of the pot. It's just plain luscious.

Ever since Alice Waters began writing about her inspiration for Chez Panisse and made us yearn

■ **VEGETARIAN:** The Vegetable Plate offers a choice of any four sides.

■ **KIDS MENU:** No — but ask for smaller portions from the regular menu.

■ **DESSERTS:** All house made, and all likely to sell out early. The Sweet Potato Pie (\$3.25) alone is worth a visit; 7-Up Cake (\$3.25) is a delicious, buttery pound cake with the tang of citrus.

■ **FREEBIES:** Tiny cornbread muffins come with the entrees.

■ **BEVERAGES:** Sugary iced tea and lemonade, plus a full bar.

■ **FOOD COST (pre-tax):** \$60.95; four entrees, two desserts.

for an ideal of peasant food that had the power to bind communities together, we went looking for connection in the wrong neighborhoods, on expensive menus that evoked Tuscany or Provence. But the real thing was a lot closer than some of us ever realized.

Go get a taste of it down by your biscuits. Do you want it on your biscuits, baby?

NELLIE'S SOULFOOD

REVIEW VISIT ON JULY 22

■ **WHERE:** 1155 Third St., Oakland.

■ **HOURS:** 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.

■ **PARKING:** Free in the lot.

■ **CONTACT:** 510-625-1350.

■ **DATE OPENED:** At the current location, May 2004 (since 1995 on Shattuck Avenue).

■ **PRINCIPALS:** Nellie Ozen, owner; Quinette Ozen, manager.

■ **RESERVATIONS:** No.

■ **PRIVATE PARTIES:** Up to 100 in the dining room.

■ **NOISE LEVEL:** High.

■ **MOOD:** A vast loftlike space with exposed rafters, tables covered in clear vinyl and lace curtains.

■ **SPECIAL AREA:** None.

■ **SERVICE POINT:** Polite and personable — though if you show up within an hour of closing, the staff can seem slow and distracted.



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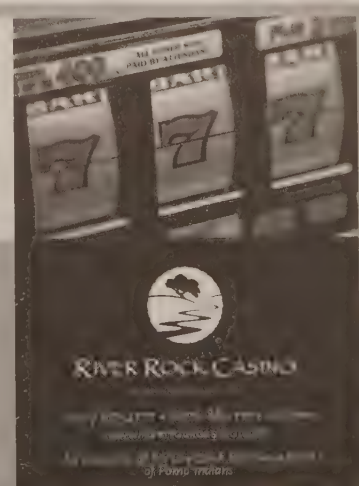
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Arts & Leisure

Friday, August 5, 2005



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Krasny remains news radio's best

MICHAEL KRASNY'S "Forum", broadcast weekdays from 9-11 a.m. on KQED-FM, is the most popular public radio talk program in the country. It also, not surprisingly, sells more books than any local TV or radio show.

Krasny is an anomaly in the increasingly nasty and partisan world of talk radio — he's thoughtful (he's also an English professor at San Francisco State), and is pleasant, even solicitous, to guests and callers. He's also arguably the best-known intellectual in the Bay Area.

But Krasny, a 12-year veteran of the NPR affiliate after coming over from top-rated commercial broadcaster KGO, does have some strong opinions off-air that you won't often hear on his well-modulated show. When I spoke with him the other day, he offered a few candid thoughts.

One is about KGO's policy of refusing to book any guest who's appeared on any other local station that week. Krasny: "It's a stupid and annoying policy that only creates ill will and is found, to my knowledge, nowhere else in the crazy, competitive radio world."

As far as ratings, we've mentioned here before that KQED has more people listening than any NPR affiliate in the country. The "Forum" host expounds, bringing up his direct competition and former KGO colleague, Ronn Owens, when asked whether his Arbitron ratings stack up favorably against KGO:

The Cleveland native says, "KQED is doing very favorably indeed against KGO, the long-time No. 1 powerhouse, and I'm doing very well against Ronn Owens."

So, does the bookish Krasny listen to commercial radio? Yes, but his choice of stations might surprise many of his "Forum" listeners: "I listen to music, preferably oldies on KFRC or Kiss-FM. I used to listen to (Don) Imus, but he's gone. My not-so-secret vice is Howard Stern. I hop around on the talk and news stations a lot — almost like guys habitually are supposed to do with TV channel switching."

Any comment on the deplorable state of commercial broadcasting these days? Will satellite hurt it, and isn't "Forum" on satellite? "Commercial radio is being seriously challenged by non-terrestrial radio like Sirius and XM. I've been on Sirius, distributed by NPR, for five years. Satellite brings in a lot of choices without commercials the way cable did in television. It, along with podcasting — which 'Forum' also presently has — will have enormous impact. In fact, it is already having it."

KQED operates under a different mandate than commercial stations — it has more of a public-service obligation. If "Forum" sometimes sounds a bit dry, explains Krasny, there's a reason: "We are all about public service," says the Marin resident, "and as a result we sometimes need to do programming that is not as sexy as it might otherwise be — such as election coverage, which includes races that people don't care mightily about but that are important nevertheless and challenging to make interesting to a broader base of listeners."

"Forum" does have its lighter moments, however, and I asked Krasny to recall one of his favorites: "One amusing moment last month was when I had Michael Jackson's lawyer (Thomas Mesearou) on. I had a boy caller with a question who was listening on satellite and phoning in to us from Nederland, Colo."

The producer typed in 'Nederland.' So I'm welcoming a boy named George from Nederland," laughs Krasny, "and asking if he's calling from the Jackson ranch."

Bill Mann's column runs every other week. Reach him at Newsman@sonic.net



MIKE DAISEY, writer and star of the one-man show "Ugly American," tells the story of his time in London with complex word pictures conveyed with a minimum of movement.

'Ugly American' star acts out his stories beautifully at Berkeley Rep

By Pat Craig
STAFF WRITER

IT ISN'T UNTIL afterward you realize the guy never moved.

Not counting intermission, Mike Daisey was glued to his chair behind the library table set at center stage, all night long.

The magic, it turns out, is in his words and his remarkably expressive face, because you swear you'd spent a semester abroad with him in London. His piece, "The Ugly American," which opened Sunday night at Berkeley Repertory Theatre's Thrust Stage,

is a darkly hilarious, occasionally jarring journey through recollections of a facile mind.

Daisey, who performed "21 Dog Years" at Berkeley Rep last year, bills himself as a monologist, not an actor, not the captain of a one-man show.

He's a guy who tells stories, working from notes, rather than a script; his tales are slightly different each night as he travels, once again, from Maine to London to discover a wild sexual and theatrical subculture that would leave quite an impression on a 19-year-old man.

When, Daisey says, he decided to spend a term abroad, the idea was to do a year of college lite, and to study theater at the fountainhead — England — where he hoped the spirits of Laurence Olivier and John Gielgud would somehow pay him a visit and imbue him with that special flair that comes only from a London-trained actor.

What he gets, though, is a part in a pretty lousy play ("You must learn to perform bad work," the teacher tells him, "because you

THEATER REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Ugly American," one-man show written and performed by Mike Daisey

■ **WHEN:** Wednesdays-Sundays, through Aug. 14

■ **WHERE:** Berkeley Repertory Theatre Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$30-\$35

■ **CONTACT:** 510-847-2949, 888-427-8849, www.berkeleyrep.org

See "UGLY," Page C7

Southern comfort and sweet pie are awaitin'

By John Birdsall
CORRESPONDENT

R&B singer Jill Scott breaks it down about soul food, how the best of it drips with shared meaning like sorghum molasses down a stack of hotcakes. Scott's songs describe love so deep that it flows into everything her hands touch, and especially soul food. "Do you want it on your rice and gravy?" she sings in "It's Love." "Do you want it on your biscuits, baby?"

The thing about soul food is that it's never just about food. Whether through love or shared experience, oxtails and collard greens are about human connection as surely as they're about a long, slow simmer of humble ingredients.

If you grew up like me — a white kid, in just another effectively segregated subdivision — a meal at a place like Nellie's Soulfood Restaurant can be as heady as a first beer. You feel the buzz in the restaurant's vast loft-like space (a couple of semi-lengths from the Oakland docks), perhaps the friendliest place you'll ever eat. Feel it in the Al Green or R. Kelly booming from the big jukebox; from the poised granny at the next table in a prim pantsuit and outrageously furry beret; the gentleman in seersucker and white suspenders chatting softly with the host; the tuggish kid in tall tee, braids and tattoos, tipping the waitress directly, personally, with a nod of the head.

No matter where you grew up, your first bite of Nellie's Sweet Potato Pie (\$3.25) can make you feel genuinely happy. Baked by owner Nellie Ozen's



NELLIE'S SOULFOOD'S down-home dishes, such as fried chicken, bind it to the Oakland community.



mother, 92-year-old Mary Smith, from east Texas, it's a marvel: In a delicate shortening crust, the

filling so light and porous it's downright airy, far from sweet potato pie's typically dense and clammy texture. Yeah, it's sweet (sweet is one of soul food's cardinal tastes), and there's enough powdered cinnamon to leave your tongue numb. But beyond that is a remarkably dry sweet potato puree with the opulent perfume of butter, barely set with egg. Make sure to ask the server to warm it for you.

Nothing else I've tasted at Nellie's has such a strikingly origi-

nal quality, but almost everything has been solidly good. Fried Chicken (\$13.95) is archetypal, flocked with a breading that's blistered and crispy and more or less greaseless. The flesh inside, from both thighs and breast hunks, is so moist its release of trapped steam can burn your upper lip. Save the best part, the first wing joint, for the end: breading, skin and brittle bone fused into a single salty sensation.

See NELLIE'S, Page C7

Shotgun players 'Cyrano' release

By Susan Ku

It turns out that a tury swordsmen agree to say to modern women living in the "American Idol." And gun Players "Cyrano" erac" wrings every vance out of this about unrequited love.

You may know the premise: a guy who schnozz and a way to agree to write the story that let a handsome guy woo the woman he loves.

Edmond Rostand's "Cyrano" in 1897, but a temporary translation. Marowitz keeps all the flavor while giving us to the language that and passion seem of the The Shotgun Players one straight: swordplay and boots.

The actors even swordplay, and there's realistic-looking duels.

The outdoor amphitheater at John Hinkley Park, Berkeley treasure, gives actors plenty of room about, and they make of it, sometimes playing audience or disappearing hill.

Director Joanie Mott flated some of the cast fit the troupe, and it's to see the actors reinvent themselves as each plays a nor characters.

The real Cyrano who fit right into today's Berkeley was a writer, satirist who, when he wasn't everyone from the phony artists and academics, wrote utopian fiction.

As played by Clint Cyrano is an anti-hero: cynical, bitter, thwarted by his own missing idealism.

Gwen Larsen's Roxane, object of his adulation, a young thing. It's probably given the script, to write the actor's intellect could up a bit.

Although she's intelligent and literate, seems more a lover, phrases than a serious, cerning woman equal to wit.

It's too easy to see why Cyrano would be spurn him in favor of a handsome airhead, Andy Alabran.

Cyrano is too honest, own good — except counts.

He makes enemies where with his sharp tongue he can't bring himself to his love for Roxane. He puts his words into Cyrano's mouth, where they charm her.

Refusing to betray a of honor — and his Cyrano lives out of poverty, with only a few true friends who console with him to tell Roxane.

He almost convinces with his fervid soliloquy of Christian, that he has life boldly.

But when it comes cannot.

There's plenty of around the central theme one of the funniest scenes tries to goad Cyrano into a duel by interrupting his silence Cyrano begins, each into a reference to Only as he dies do we learn the play's central yourself, be honest and day.

These are lessons still are attempting to the Shotgun Players' a fine tutorial.

THEATER REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Cyrano de Bergerac" presented by the Shotgun Players

■ **WHEN:** 4 p.m. Saturdays through Sept. 4

■ **WHERE:** John Hinkley Park, Southampton Avenue, Berkeley

■ **HOW MUCH:** Free (donations encouraged)

■ **CONTACT:** 510-847-2949, shotgunplayers.org

Picnicking encouraged; lawn chairs and lap robes; wheelchair seating; beverages and food sold.

Friday Auto Plus

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Advertising supplement to The Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, August 5, 2005

Section D

The Mercedes-Benz R-Class is cutting-edge and ahead of its time

BY TOM KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS

For those who want something different that comfortably seats six adults, take a look at the 2006 Mercedes-Benz R-Class. A cutting-edge vehicle is like nothing you've seen before.

The R-Class has the performance and comfort of a sports sedan, the versatility of a sport utility vehicle, plus all the amenities of an upscale luxury car. Even more impressive is its innovative design. From the front, it looks like a sports car, the side-view offers a very aggressive wedge-shape appearance. It sits on 17-inch wheels — or the optional choice of 19-inch wheels.

There are two models, the R350 with a 3.5-liter V6 engine and the R500 with a 5.5-liter V8 engine. The R350 costs \$48,000, plus \$775 for delivery. The R500 goes for \$60,000, plus \$775. Options are 1a available, but even with everything the R500 is less than \$60,000.

For the sake of simplicity, this report focuses on the R500 and some of the available options. For example, instead of an ordinary sunroof over the two front passengers, an optional sunroof runs the entire length of the vehicle. This allows you seated in row two or three to enjoy greater sense of space.

I made it a point to ride in all three rows and found exceptional comfort no matter where I sat — and always with a window view. Although it's easier to become seated in the second row just inside the rear door, the third row is surprisingly comfortable to use.

Regardless of where I sat, I had my own individual environment. I could watch a movie while another passenger could play a video game, had my own climate control and could select my listening preferences. Such individuality is not found in other vehicles.

The driver's seat, however, was the most enjoyable as I was in command of the vehicle I never before experienced. The R-Class is the world's first seven-speed automatic transmission. The shifter only requires a touch of the finger to take it out



THE R-CLASS has the performance and comfort of a sports sedan, the versatility of a sport utility vehicle, plus all the amenities of an upscale luxury car.

MOTOR MATTERS

KEANE ON WHEELS

of park with a touch upward or downward to go into reverse or forward. Or, by touching a control on the underside of the steering wheel, I could shift gears while both hands remained on the steering wheel.

When I wanted to pass another vehicle, I was amazed at the quick response from the 302-horsepower engine — even though I was already traveling at a high speed.

I felt secure. The R-Class includes full-time four-wheel drive, plus four-wheel traction control. I'm told that this system will automatically provide mobility, even if three wheels lose traction.

Mercedes-Benz told me the engineers have designed the unit body platform that includes the latest occupant safety technology. The high-strength steel is bolted to the longitudinal members to absorb most

MERCEDES-BENZ R-CLASS

Vehicle Type	Six-passenger, four-door, sports touring vehicle
Suggested Retail	\$56,225
Engine Type	V8 SOHC 24-valve w/SFI
Horsepower	302 @ 5,600 rpm
Torque	339 @ 2,700 rpm
Transmission	Seven-speed automatic
Wheelbase	127 inches
Height	.58 inches
Curb Weight	4,845 pounds
Fuel Capacity	25 gallons

of the impact energy in a frontal collision. In an offset frontal collision, the aluminum bulkhead cross members would spread the force across the entire front end. The unit body R-Class has high torsional rigidity for better resistance to vibration.

The safety features are too numerous

to report. My impression is that both R-Class models have every innovative safety feature available.

The interior is exceptionally attractive with a leather wrapped multi-function steering wheel and the quality of the leather seats are extremely attractive. Naturally,

the sound system is exceptional and for those who want it, Sirius Satellite radio is available.

This provides a rough idea of this innovative vehicle, but to have a better understanding of what cutting edge really means, you have to test-drive it for yourself.

SEE MORE R-CLASS PHOTOS ON PAGE 3

INSIDE

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Auto Doctor	Page 2
Down the Road	Page 2

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1938 Ford has been given 'kid glove' treatment from day one

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

Usually it's the high dollar, top-of-the-line automobiles that receive special treatment. However, this is the incredible tale of a 1938 Ford Deluxe four-door sedan that had a base price of \$770, and received white-glove treatment.

This handsome black Ford was built in February 1938 and shipped to Wisconsin, where it was purchased by Abram Wessel. He drove it on 6.00x16-inch tires to his home in Brandon, Wis. For more than 30 years he had his five-passenger Ford serviced exclusively at the local Ford dealership. He reportedly never left home in the car if rain was falling. Wessel's Ford was always garaged and never driven in winter months. From the first snow until spring, his well-protected Ford rested in a garage.

Upon the death of the original owner in the early 1970s, the car was sold by his grandson to an antique automobiles dealer. He, in turn, sold the Ford to a car collector in Maryland, who kept the pristine car garaged for 18 years until 1988. That's when another collector bought the car. He also kept the car safely garaged. After he died, a longtime friend, Tom Lumpkin, purchased the Ford on July 30, 1997, with an authentic 62,800 miles recorded on the odometer. "I had a ball cleaning and fixing things," Lumpkin said.

Records show the 2,898-pound Ford, one of 90,551 such models manufactured, was delivered with two optional extras, a single amber fog light and a hot-air heater. Lumpkin has installed an additional pair of authentic and approved Ford accessories — a third bumper guard in the middle of the front bumper and a left-side exterior gooseneck mirror.

Lumpkin has discovered that his Ford

CLASSIC CLASSICS

is equipped with a downdraft carburetor, 85-horsepower V8 engine, 112-inch wheelbase, and mechanical brakes. He also has learned that the 221-cubic-inch flathead engine requires 5 quarts of oil, 22 quarts of coolant and the gasoline tank has a 14-gallon capacity. The 15-foot, 9-inch-long Ford has a turning circle of 40 feet and a ground clearance of 8.5 inches.

Because the two-piece windshield can be hand-cranked open at the bottom for ventilation, the vacuum windshield wipers by necessity are suspended from the top of the windshield.

A cowl ventilator between the windshield and the engine hood can be opened to scoop in fresh air to cool the ankles of the front-seat occupants.

Along each side of the engine hood are five long, horizontal vents to help control engine temperature. Of course, V8 emblems promoting the Ford engine are plentiful.

Tear-drop headlights were used by Ford designers in 1938 for the second year. They are mounted in the fenders. Red tear-drop taillights are mounted on the rear fenders on either side of the trunk. This was the first year Ford offered a built-in trunk as standard equipment.

New then, and unusual now, is the headlight dimmer control on the floor. A novel push-button starter on the dashboard was being tried for the second year.

The oval mirror mounted on the two-piece windshield divider above the unfaded wood-grain dashboard affords the driver a view through the two-piece rear window. Below that rear window, in the



THIS 1938 FORD DELUXE four-door sedan has had a pampered life.

trunk beneath a horizontal shelf, is the original spare tire.

Inside the cabin, the mohair upholstery is a bit worn, but in outstanding condition, considering it is approaching 70 years of age. Lumpkin has replaced the clutch and brake pedal pads because of wear.

"She burns some oil when pushed," he

said. "On the highway she'll pump some oil." Of course, that's driving the Ford in conditions that didn't exist in 1938. "It cruises nicely at 60 or 65 mph," he said.

The speedometer on the dashboard can register speeds up to 100 mph. Now that the 67-year-old car has been driven 69,000 miles, Lumpkin thinks about the 100-mph

speedometer and says of his Ford, "I've never been there, but I bet it's there."

For your car to become the next Classic Classics column, send a photograph (frontal 3/4 view) plus brief description and phone number to Vern Parker, 22181 Botsford Drive, Vienna, VA 22181. Photos of good quality will be com-

The making of a brand new Mazda Miata

BY DAVE VAN SICKLE
MOTOR MATTERS

When the first generation Mazda Miata was introduced in 1989, it was an instant success for several reasons. First, it was fun to drive, but just as important, it was affordable. That success prompted other automakers, like BMW, Mercedes, Audi and Toyota to try capturing a piece of the new, hot roadster market Mazda recreated.

Even though some Miata fans weren't thrilled with the changes that came in 1998 on the second-generation model, sales held up well, and none of Miata's competitors have ever been able to duplicate (or even come close to) its success. Now, Miata is the best-selling roadster in the world, with over 700,000 sold.

But even the best vehicles can't stay on top without change. Technology and regulations march on, and to remain successful, vehicles need to continually improve with the latest know-how and expertise. The trick for Mazda was to adapt without spoiling the image or brand character of the icon-like Miata. The work began about five years ago on the third-generation Miata.

The program manager, Takao Kijima, has worked on the Miata for 19 years and he thinks it's helpful to look back to the beginning. At the time, there were hardly any worthwhile sports cars on the road — real, lightweight, affordable sports cars. In developing the new 2006 MX-5 Miata, he kept that history in mind and delivered a modern vehicle true to the original design concept.

His design team studied 320 sketches from studios all over the world to identify the most suitable image for the third-generation. It was a challenge to create an advanced design while keeping the traditions of the original Miata. Proposals ranged from advanced and futuristic, sharp-edged, trendy designs to some that rightly express the tradi-

DOWN THE ROAD

tion that has been maintained over the years.

From the sketches, the choices were narrowed down to seven finalists. With one-quarter scale models, the design team and executives had a chance to debate what was really necessary and to what extent it needed to include new elements.

From the seven models, it settled on three, which were developed further by making full-size models in three global design studios. The team wanted the new MX-5 to be recognizable at least 100 meters away. It lined up the current Miata and the three full-scale models against a wall to confirm its ideas about the MX-5's design.

The interior design received the same kind of detailed attention as the exterior. Like the exterior, it displays the heritage and evolution that is appropriate for the third-generation MX-5.

Since "fun to drive" is a key element in Miata's success, an extraordinary amount of attention was devoted to developing a new powertrain. But the team was faced with the question: "what feeling is necessary to experience fun to drive?"

Is it high torque? High horsepower? Are loudness or powerful sounds adequate to the image? A heavy pedal? A light one? There were 324 different combinations of these fun-to-drive feelings and the development team knew it would be too late to reflect on them once the vehicle was developed. One and a half months were spent analyzing factors such as acceleration feel, sound and pedal operation.

The design team knew that the engine output is the most important factor in realizing the target performance feel. It knew what it wanted the car to feel like in different driving

situations — very linear with lots of torque throughout the full range of engine speeds.

To get that feeling — to hit the target — it looked at 97 different types of engine specifications, such as valve timing difference, intake manifold difference and silencer back pressure difference. There were three different areas of the drivetrain it focused on: the electronic throttle, flywheel and drive shaft stiffness.

These days, many cars get heavier when they are redesigned. Adding features like side airbags and body reinforcements invariably increase vehicle weight. In order to maintain a quick and nimble driving feeling, the team knew it was critical to lighten the car, so it moved ahead with its "gram strategy."

A careful examination of every part yielded 573 ideas that might eliminate 43,589 grams. (One pound equals 454 grams.) Obviously many of those ideas could not be used, but the end result is impressive. Even with its larger size and additional features, the new MX-5 weighs only 22 pounds more than the previous Miata.

What is the result of those years of detailed development work? The new MX-5's wheelbase is 2.5 inches longer, overall length is up 2.0 inches, width has increased 1.7 inches and height is up slightly. More important, shoulder room has increased 3.5 inches, head room is up 0.3 inches and leg room has improved by 0.3 inches. Horsepower has increased from 142 to 170 and torque increased from 125 to 140 pounds-foot. Even with the more powerful engine, fuel economy has improved from 23/28 miles per gallon to 25/30 mpg city/highway.

Did Mazda's design team do a good job of creating an all-new MX-5? The answer is a resounding "yes," and even though every single part is new, it still has the character and appeal of the original Miata.



THE NEW 2006 MX-5 Miata

Cadillac Seville has better ratings in recent years

BY JUNIOR DAMATO
MOTOR MATTERS

Dear Doctor: I am interested in buying a two- or three-year-old certified Cadillac Seville. Recently I read a Consumer Reports rating that the car has poor reliability. Based on your experience, would you recommend buying one? — Richard

Dear Richard: I have seen my share of Cadillacs in my shop for service and repair. The 2003 model year and newer have been much better than the prior years. I would strongly recommend an extended warranty from either GM or a good insurance company. If you truly like the Seville, buy it.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1988 Jeep with the 4.0-liter six-cylinder, with 184,000 miles. It has an intermittent starting problem that first occurred last October after I left

AUTO DOCTOR

the Jeep outside for a few days without being started. The engine will crank over but it does not start. My mechanic of 10 years has not been able to locate the problem. I left the Jeep with him for two weeks and it always started for him. If the engine starts in the morning it is usually good for the entire day. — Glenn

Dear Glenn: Intermittent no-start and stall problems are the hardest to pinpoint, especially on pre-1996 model year vehicles. Ask your mechanic to hook up a shop fuel pressure tester and spark tester. When the engine fails to start, you will be able to see what the engine is lacking. This will alert the mechanic to the correct area

to check.

Dear Doctor: I own a 2000 Cadillac DeVille. Sometimes the running lights and headlights will not come on. I took it to the dealer when the lights weren't working and was told a loose wire was discovered and fixed. A few days later the same problem happened again. By the time I got to the dealer the lights were working and they said they would not be able to find the problem until the lights stopped working. The tail lights and parking lights work fine. — Laverne

Dear Laverne: Ask the dealer technician which wires were loose and check the connector for corrosion. Also, check the connections at the headlight switch. Another suggestion: simply have the technician follow the wire diagram.

Dear Doctor: In 1999, I pur-

chased a new Dodge Stratus four-cylinder automatic transmission. Current mileage is 30,000 miles. Most of my driving is on Texas highways. The dealer suggested changing the transmission fluid. The owner's manual states under schedule A, a transmission service is no longer needed. Under schedule B the transmission service is at 48,000 miles. Who do I believe? — Wes

Dear Wes: A lot has changed over the years. One thing that has not changed is fluids and parts wear out. Texas is a lot hotter than Boston, and everything in your car is operating at higher temperatures. This is actually a good thing. However, oil and transmission fluid will break down under heat. I would like to see the transmission fluid flushed out with a machine, rather than removing the trans-

mission pan. The filter is large enough to still allow proper fluid flow.

Dear Doctor: I own a 2000 Toyota Avalon with 43,000 miles. The engine has been operating fine with gas mileage of 29 miles per gallon on the highway. The engine developed a misfire. I took it to the dealer. The computer codes were 302 and 303. They said the spark plugs were fouled and had slow injector response. The cost of repair was \$1,779. I had no choice but to have them fix the car. Why didn't they try to clean the injectors before replacing them? — Gabe

Dear Gabe: I have replaced a lot of spark plugs on these six-cylinder engines and air-fuel ratio, a.k.a. oxygen sensors. Fuel-injector replacement with such low mileage is unusual. As for cleaning fuel injectors, this service was done in the past. Today, manufacturers advise not having the fuel injectors professionally cleaned.

Dear Doctor: I own a Mercury Cougar 3.0-liter V6 engine with an automatic transmission. It has 123,000 miles. Several weeks ago when the steering wheel turned all the way to the left and stepped on the brakes, the brake pedal went to the floor. This only happened when the steering wheel turned all the way to the left. The symptom lasted only a few days and the brake fluid level was your thoughts? — John

Dear John: Look at the internal leaking master cylinder sticking caliper, or expanding rubber flex hoses. Vehicles equipped with ABS brakes, an internally stuck caliper can cause the brake fluid to collect in the ABS accumulator. This is a safety issue and should be checked before someone is hurt. A rebuilt master cylinder and two front brake flex hoses are expensive insurance. — Jerry

SELL YOUR CAR, BOAT, MOTORCYCLE
THROUGH THE CLASSIFIEDS
IN HILLS NEWSPAPERS

R-CLASS PHOTOS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



MOTOR MATTERS

THE R-CLASS includes full-time four-wheel drive, plus four-wheel traction control, left. The new R-Class is designed as a roomy vehicle with space for six adults, right, — three pairs of comfortable single seats in a spacious interior.



MOTOR MATTERS

Sales begin with taking care of the customer

BY MICHELLE KREBS
MOTOR MATTERS

At a wedding recently, I met a delightful German gentleman who shared his latest car-buying adventure. A long-time civil engineer, he switched careers midlife to establish a group of physical fitness centers in Hamburg. The business grew extremely prosperous, and, when he sold it off to retire, he walked away with enough cash to make him a wealthy man.

After closing the business deal, he decided to reward himself with a new car; he wanted a Mercedes-Benz E-Class. He dressed in his new retirement garb — sports and sandals — he was flat-out stoked at the Mercedes dealership. He noticed that they looked him over and noted he couldn't afford a Mercedes and didn't bother with him.

His next stop was the local Toyota dealership, from which he drove away in a brand-new automobile. He has no sympathy for the automaker of his homeland, where imports are making inroads at the point that many of the taxis, once universally German-made Mercedes and BMWs, have been supplanted by Toyotas.

SHE'S FREEWHEELING

They deserve what they get, he implied.

My point is this: people around the globe speak the same language when it comes to poor customer treatment.

In my interview earlier this year with Renault/Nissan chief Carlos Ghosn, I asked him to describe his company's biggest global challenge. "For us and for everyone in the industry, it is making sure the customer experience is one that is clearly ahead of the competition and one that the customer looks at as a delightful experience," he said.

Ghosn may well want to clone sales director Bob Golomb, of Nissan's dealership in Flemington, N.J. The star salesman, who sells double the number of cars of other sales associates, is featured in a fast and fascinating book I highly recommend called "Blink," by Malcolm Gladwell. It has been on The New York Times' bestseller list for 24 straight weeks alongside Gladwell's earlier book, "The Tipping Point" another good read.

Whereas "The Tipping Point" dis-

cusses how people deal with their outside world and how fads and trends develop, "Blink" explores the inner world and the choice-making ability of different people.

As I read the book, I thought Blink could be valuable to folks at auto companies and dealerships who sell cars and trucks, develop new models or conduct consumer clinics.

The best decision makers, the book contends, are not those who deliberate a long time or process the most information. Rather, they are those who have perfected the art of "thin slicing," defined as filtering the few factors that matter from among an overwhelming number of variables. Some call it gut instinct.

What Golomb says about success is that he follows three simple rules: "Take care of the customer. Take care of the customer. Take care of the customer." He follows up. He has happy customers, as evidenced by the three-ring binders filled with letters from them. He has repeat customers.

What the book says about Golomb is that he's also a master of thin slicing, although he does it unconsciously and ef-

fortlessly. He instinctively gathers all kinds of information about customers who walk into the showroom, from their mood, state of mind, and knowledge level, to the dynamic that exists between the person and another who has accompanied the person. He then adjusts his behavior accordingly.

The book describes Golomb as having "a quiet, watchful intelligence and a courtly charm." He's thoughtful, attentive and listens well.

Golomb says he follows another important rule. While he tries to assess the customer's needs and state of mind, he tries not to judge any prospective buyer on appearance. He assumes everyone who walks into the dealership has the same chance of buying a car.

People around the globe speak the same language when it comes to poor customer treatment.

"You cannot prejudice people in this business," he told the author repeatedly. "Prejudging is the kiss of death. You have to give everyone your best shot."

"This person looks like he can't afford a car," is the worst thing to say, because sometimes the most unlikely person is flush, he points out.

In stark contrast, the book suggests, most salespeople let the first impression about the person's appearance drown out every other piece of information they gather.

Too bad for my German friend that Golomb didn't work at the Mercedes dealership.

Infiniti's Lane Departure Warning system warns drifting drivers to get back in their lane

BY MATT NAUMAN
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

SAO JOSE — I'm driving on the interstate, talking to my kids in the back seat. It's hot, and the Infiniti sport-utility I'm driving to the right, its wheels crossing the lane.

Almost instantly, a light on the dashboard is blinking, and there's this insistent beeping that alerts me to my peril.

I adjust the steering wheel, get back into the lane and the blinking/beeping stops.

Unlike many drivers who don't pay attention as they change the radio station, or the buttons on the cell phone or start to doze off, I'm driving a bit erratically on the road.

I'm testing Infiniti's Lane Departure Warning system, found in its 2005 FX35 and FX45 SUVs and its 2006 M35 and M45 sedans.

The first-in-the-industry system, aside from a minor complaint, worked perfectly in several days of real-world bad driving.

Infiniti says this new technology will save lives, and I believe it will.

Studies show that about 55 percent of auto accidents in the United States are caused by roadway departures, said Robert Yakushi, director of product safety, regulation and accessory quality for Nissan North America. Infiniti is Nissan's upscale car brand.

Driver distraction, inattention and drowsiness cause cars to leave the road, he said.

The result: 23,000 deaths a year.

Nissan, along with suppliers Valeo and Delphi, began working to offer a solution.

The result, the Lane Departure Warning system, uses tiny cameras, computing power and in-vehicle sensors to detect when a car is leaving a lane when it's not supposed to. The result is a beep and flashing light on the instrument panel, "then the driver can make that necessary adjustment," Yakushi said.

The small camera, mounted behind the interior rear-view mirror, captures images of visible lane markers. That information is sent to a microprocessor where such factors as vehicle speed and lateral velocity are calculated.

If the computer thinks the vehicle is unintentionally leaving a lane, it reacts in about one second. "That gives you enough time to alert the driver," Yakushi said.

It activates only at speeds above 45 mph, can be manually turned off and works only on roads with lane markings. "It will work as long as it can pick up one line," he said. "Ideally the system would rather have two lines."

The system isn't fail-proof. Certain weather conditions — snow or heavy rain or fog — affect the camera's visibility. If the camera faces directly into the sun, or gets a strong reflection off the pavement on a sunny day, it might not be as effective.

But, at night, when I tested it, it worked very well. When I drifted off the highway, it beeped and flashed. When I got back on the road, it stopped.

And when I hit the turn signal, and changed lanes, the system was mute. Activating turn signals tells the computer that you're switching lanes on purpose.

My one complaint: I found the whole thing a bit too subtle.

To me, a blinking light on the bottom of the instrument panel is too easy to ignore. And a fairly quiet beep, especially if the radio or the conversation is loud, is too easy to miss.

That's intentional, Yakushi said. "This is the first system into the market," he said. "If we were to make that beeping sound more obnoxious, we may end up getting negative feedback from the customer."

The system is sold as part of an option package. So far, according to Infiniti spokesman Bill Garlin, acceptance has been strong. About 43 percent of M35/M45 buyers have gotten it as part of the \$4,200 technology package for that car. It's included in the \$1,750 mobile entertainment-system package in the FX models, and 12 percent of FX35 buyers and 32 percent of FX45 buyers have bought it.

The next step for researchers, Yakushi said, is getting a vehicle to automatically return to its lane once it leaves, a lane-departure prevention system.

Yakushi believes the Infiniti system will save lives, that it'll show up in other Nissan models and that variations of it will arrive from other automakers. Proving its worth, like other passive safety equipment from anti-lock brakes to stability control systems, will remain a bit difficult as it's hard to quantify an accident that doesn't happen.

But a drifting driver will soon learn its value.



INFINITI

INFINITI'S LANE DEPARTURE WARNING system is found in its 2005 FX35 and FX45 SUVs, and its 2006 M35 and M45 sedans (pictured above).

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2005

Buick Lacrosse CXS

Base price: \$28,335; Engine: 3.6-liter, 240-horsepower V6; fuel economy: 19 m.p.g. city/27 highway. First new Buick car since 2000 replaces Regal/Century. Pains taken on fit, finish and quiet for the perception of the same quality as rival midsize Japanese sedans. All fasteners covered with caps, vinyl trim looks and feels like leather and sound deadeners applied throughout. New V6 provides ample power yet very good mileage. Suspension upgrades deliver smooth ride and precise handling. ABS and traction control standard, stability control optional. Five- or six-speaker seating.

Chevrolet Equinox LT AWD

Base price: \$24,335; Engine: 3.4-liter, 185-horsepower V6; fuel economy: 19 m.p.g. city/25 highway. The biggest SUV in the compact segment—because it's really midsize and only slightly smaller than a Trail-Blazer, but shhh, don't tell. Replaces tiny Tracker. FWD or AWD. Peppy V6 with decent mileage. Pleasant ride and handling. Neat features, such as second-row seat that moves forward or back by 8 inches; cargo hold parcel shelf that doubles as picnic table; fold-down second-row and front passenger seat backs to expand cargo capacity; and everything from cup to tissue to grocery bag to coin and purse holders.

Chrysler 300C

Base price: \$32,370; Engine: 5.7-liter, 340-horsepower, Hemi V8; fuel economy: 17 m.p.g. city/25 highway. The RWD replacement for the FWD 300M, with one other new twist, a potent Hemi. And another twist comes this fall when AWD is added as an option. Hemi comes with mul-

tiple displacement system, which shuts off 4 cylinders when not needed to improve mileage. This RWD sedan comes with stability control and all-speed traction control to eliminate the slip and slide tendency of RWD cars in the snow. Ride and handling benefit from 18-inch touring radials. Excellent cabin room.

Dodge Dakota Laramie Quad Cab 4x4

Base price: \$26,679; Engine: 4.7-liter, 230-horsepower V8; fuel economy: 15 m.p.g. city/20 highway. The midsize pickup gets even larger for '05, call it midsize plus. Design closely resembles the Ram. About 4 inches added in length to provide more crush space and occupant protection in an impact. No more regular cabs, only Club or Quad cabs with four access or traditional doors. Choice of 230- or 260-horsepower 4.7-liter V8s. Only V8 in the midsize truck segment, making it capable of towing more than 7,000 pounds. Neat features: rear seat bottom cushions lift up and fold against backs to provide added cargo space and side-curtain air bags offered.

Ford Escape Hybrid FWD

Base price: \$26,380; Engine: 2.3-liter, 133-horsepower, 4-cylinder gas engine teamed with 94-horsepower, 70-kilowatt electric motor; Fuel economy: 35-40 m.p.g. city/29-31 highway (estimated). Uses gas and electric power to conserve fuel, which it does well as evidenced by its mileage rating. Just like the regular compact SUV except an electric motor takes some of the load off the gas engine when starting and when added muscle is needed to merge, pass or climb. Power of a V6 from a 4-cylinder gas engine/electric motor. Available with FWD or AWD. Dash display tells you when you are using gas, batteries or both as well as mileage at the moment. Eerie silence when batteries power the car. Heating pack promises cold-weather starts.

Ford Freestyle SEL

Base price: \$30,185; Engine: 3-liter, 203-h.p. V6; fuel economy: 19 m.p.g. city/24 highway. Looks a little like a wagon, a lot more like a SUV, but acts like a sedan in ride and handling. Looks small on the outside but is spacious inside. Offers a choice of FWD or AWD. Can seat up to seven in three rows, and third row flips and folds flat into floor while second-row seat backs fold flat as well. The V6 has adequate power and good mileage, but don't be surprised if a more potent engine is added soon.

Hummer H2 SUT

Base price: \$51,995; Engine: 6-liter, 325-horsepower V8; fuel economy: 310-mile range from 32-gallon tank. A new pickup to attract more followers into the camp that finds comfort in purchasing the biggest vehicle money can buy without 18 wheels. Smooth ride for a giant. Basically a SUV with an abbreviated bed. Holds five people in the cabin. If more cargo room is needed, the cabin wall opens to extend the bed. An optional hard cover keeps items in bed out of sight. Drawback? Mileage.

Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited 4WD

Base price: \$34,045; Engine: 5.7-liter, 330-horsepower V8; fuel economy: 14 m.p.g. city/21 highway. A remake for '05, though it still looks a lot like an '04. Subtle, but appreciated differences, such as 5-inch stretch to provide cargo space behind the second-row seat. But don't look for a lot of foot room in front of that second-row seat. Plastic body cladding gone. Hemi V8 added with feature that shuts off 4 cylinders when not needed for better mileage. Choose QuadraDrive II 4WD system with electronic limited-slip differential to help ford streams or climb boulders.

Land Rover LR3

Base price: \$44,995; Engine: 4.4-liter, 300-horsepower V8; fuel economy: 14 m.p.g. city/18 highway. Machines that take man into space have fewer controls, the most noteworthy

being the huge dial in the console with settings to match engine torque, transmission gearing and traction control to the terrain—mud, snow, gravel, boulders or sand. Bigger replacement for Discovery. Stands tall, but doesn't feel top-heavy. Do ease off the pedal in sharp corners, though. Modified Jaguar V8 delivers more muscle than mileage. Dynamic stability control, traction control, 18-inch all-season radials and full-time 4WD standard for excellent manners on- or off-road.

Nissan Xterra SE 4x4

Base price: \$27,300; Engine: 4-liter, 265-horsepower V6; fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/21 highway. The changes consumers have been demanding are here. The 4-cylinder is gone and the new V-6 is far more spirited for on- or off-road adventure. Yet the suspension has been tweaked so ride and handling aren't as spirited as they used to be. 6-speed manual and 5-speed automatic are new, too. Larger dimensions for more cabin room. Stability control and traction control and four-wheel ABS are standard. Roof gear basket comes with latches and rear bumpers come with steps to load roof rack.

2006

Honda Ridgeline RTL

Base price: \$31,490; Engine: 3.5-liter, 255-horsepower V6; fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/21 highway. Its first pickup for the U.S., a midsize truck derived from the Acura MDX SUV platform. Loaded with neat features, such as a lockable trunk under the bed big enough to hold three sets of golf clubs; a tailgate that swings open or folds down; a bed wide enough to hold 4x8 sheets of plywood flat; a short 5-foot bed for easier parking/garaging still holds dirt or mountain bikes or ATVs; and a second-row seat bottom cushion that lifts and locks out of the way to expand cargo capacity. Also, on-demand AWD, standard stability control, side-curtain air bags and a power window V6.

Hummer H3

Base price: \$28,935; Engine: 3.5-

liter, 220-horsepower 5-cylinder; fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/19 m.p.g. highway. At last a smaller, higher-mileage, lower-cost member of the family to keep tree-huggers from getting their shorts in a knot. Smaller than its giant stablemates, but still capable of fording a 24-inch deep stream or climbing 18-inch rocks while making its way up a 60-degree grade. More agile than bigger members of the family, but large roof pillars block side vision and make backing out of the parking space an adventure. Only family member to boast 20 m.p.g. mileage — with manual. Derived from the midsize Chevy Colorado pickup.

Lexus RX400h

Base price: \$48,535; Engine: 3.3-liter, 208-horsepower V6 and 68-horsepower, 650-volt electric motor; fuel economy: 31 m.p.g. city/27 m.p.g. highway. Fleet-of-foot SUV with ample power from gas and electric combined. Batteries start the vehicle, and assist the gas engine when added power is needed to pass, merge or climb. Mileage excellent. Other than hybrid power, the SUV is noteworthy for standard Vehicle Dynamic Integrated Management (VDIM), a stability control system that anticipates slippage and corrects before it happens. Hefty price premium of about \$5,000 for hybrid power. Limited availability of about 28,000 units.

Lincoln LT AWD

Base price: \$42,700; Engine: 5.4-liter, 300-horsepower V8; fuel economy: 14 m.p.g. city/18 highway. Not a Blackwood, its first attempt at a luxury pickup. This machine offers 2WD and 4WD and an open bed—plus chrome and ebony bling. Can hold anything a full-size pickup can, but most won't want to get it dirty—or take it off-road. Short box for easier parking and garaging. Get the \$250 running boards to easy cabin entry. V8 mileage rating makes gas a luxury. First 20,000 buyers get a scale model.

Mercedes-Benz ML350

Base price: \$39,750; Engine: 3.5-liter, 268-horsepower, 24-valve V6; fuel economy: 16 m.p.g. city/20

m.p.g. highway. The big one is that this luxury SUV now has a car-like platform instead of an R-Class sports truck. It's a frame truck platform. Bigger manners and more refinement. Thanks to what the fender bulges it has the looks like an SUV rather than a van. Longer and wider cabin room and better mileage V6, though mileage is a little better than the old column takes getting used to. Decent initial price, but low cost options.

Subaru B9 Tribeca

Base price: \$33,665; Engine: 2.5-liter, 250-horsepower 6-cylinder; fuel economy: 18 m.p.g. city/24 highway. Odd name and new for new flagship that's larger in line. Added to fleet of SUVs needing more people room, with available seats seven. Derived from Outback form, but longer, wider and more powerful. Choice of two, or for first time, three rows of seats. Third row is never, and when in use, cargo room behind it. Try a squeeze. Nice touch: DVD entertainment system in the nav screen, stability control and full-time 4WD.

Toyota Highlander

Base price: \$37,890; Engine: 3.3-liter, 250-horsepower V6 with electric motor and 268-horsepower V6; fuel economy: 18 m.p.g. city/26 m.p.g. highway. SUV now offers a gas-electric to conserve fuel and reduce amount of gunk spit into the phere by starting and getting on battery power. Yet can provide ample power when needed. But be prepared because it takes seconds longer to get electric motor going than it does engine. The reward for your near total silence and quiet rating you'd expect in a compact midsize SUV. But not \$4,500 premium over regular model.

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1722 Bay St - \$730,000
514 Central Av - \$740,000
2207 Clinton Av - \$750,000
2919 Fernside Bl - \$755,000
3110 Fernside Bl - \$685,000
3215 Fernside Bl - \$665,000
1351 Hansen Av - \$912,000
325 Kitty Hawk 101 - \$425,000
943 Lincoln Av - \$530,000
138 Norwich Rd - \$740,000
1819 Ohlone St - \$840,000
100 Orr Rd - \$729,000
2137 Otis Dr 105 - \$435,000
1026 Otis Dr - \$782,000
33 Palm Beach - \$845,000
92 Ratto Rd - \$835,000
22 Rutland Ct - \$620,000
1835 San Jose - \$1,390,000
6 Sand Harbor - \$1,100,000
2530 Washington - \$570,000
1519 Willow St - \$688,000

ALBANY

714 Curtis St - \$855,000
1133 Garfield Av - \$800,000
924 Key Route Bl - \$513,000
1110 Neilson St - \$740,000
555 Pierce St 1001 - \$453,000
545 Pierce St 2109 - \$488,000

BERKELEY

2333 10th St - \$505,000
1405 66th St - \$450,000
1234 Addison St - \$585,000
155 Alvarado Rd - \$1,600,000
900 Arlington Av - \$1,706,000
2970 Avalon Av - \$2,000,000
1115 Chaucer St - \$759,000
2601 College 208 - \$349,000
3111 College C - \$440,000
545 Cragmont Av - \$750,000
1648 Curtis St - \$530,000
1828 Delaware 4 - \$470,000
1706 Derby St - \$650,000
2119 Emerson St - \$450,000
2121 Emerson St - \$505,000
1355 Francisco St - \$589,500
1329 Grant St - \$780,000
2206 Grant St - \$748,500
1011 Hearst Av - \$695,000
2591 Hilgard Av - \$860,000
2 Hillcrest - \$4,409,500
2216 MLK Jr Wy - \$600,000
1511 McGee Av - \$860,500
1439 Parker St - \$615,000
2306 Parker St - \$750,000
730 Peralta Av - \$705,000
2218 Roosevelt Av - \$600,000
1831 San Juan Av - \$1,850,000
751 Spruce St - \$1,002,000
957 The Alameda - \$991,000
1801 University 201 - \$265,000
2971 Virginia St 2 - \$525,000
965 Virginia St - \$701,000
1930 Ward St - \$825,000
2323 West St - \$495,000

EL CERRITO

405 Bonnie Dr - \$907,000
1645 Julian Dr - \$880,000
7010 Mania Av - \$755,500
2118 Pinehurst Ct - \$738,000
2219 Spyglass Ln - \$830,000

EL SOBRANTE

715 Alhambra Rd - \$500,000
854 Allview Av - \$540,000
5290 SP Dam Rd A19 - \$237,000
734 Santa Maria Rd - \$210,000

EMERYVILLE

1221 40th St 1304 - \$372,500
1121 40th St 1401 - \$600,000
1121 40th St 2403 - \$520,000
1121 40th St 3106 - \$116,000
1121 40th St 3107 - \$287,000
5 Admiral Rd - \$255,000
111 City Limits Cr - \$590,000
91 City Limits Cr - \$576,000
92 City Limits Cr - \$572,000
93 City Limits Cr - \$572,000

KENSINGTON

40 Kenyon Av - \$1,650,000
1659 Oakview Av - \$628,000
389 Ocean View - \$540,000
209 Stanford Av - \$900,000

OAKLAND

2362 103rd Av - \$470,000
1301 105th Av - \$430,000
1915 109th Av - \$465,000
1515 14th Av 206 - \$431,000
1681 16th St - \$337,000
2661 23rd Av - \$455,000
2107 27th Av - \$300,000
540 34th St - \$675,000
2060 36th Av - \$875,000
433 37th St - \$1,000,000
3740 38th Av - \$513,500
1219 41st Av - \$362,000
969 43rd St - \$760,000
447 44th St - \$263,000
308 49th St - \$641,000
1300 53rd Av - \$400,000
800 53rd Av - \$454,000
2048 55th Av - \$385,000
823 59th St - \$500,000
1911 5th Av - \$750,000
2551 67th Av - \$445,000
1172 72nd Av - \$370,000
2665 76th Av - \$407,000
2670 76th Av - \$403,000
2531 77th Av - \$490,000
1458 79th Av - \$445,000
1480 82nd Av - \$640,000
2474 82nd Av - \$450,000
1272 84th Av - \$360,000
1701 84th Av - \$445,000
2057 86th Av - \$425,000
2021 89th Av - \$495,000
2445 89th Av - \$395,000
1774 8th St - \$350,000
1225 91st Av - \$315,000
1231 94th Av - \$505,000
1901 96th Av - \$340,000
1916 98th Av - \$455,000
2143 9th Av - \$510,000
1510 Adelaine St - \$450,000
4500 Alendale Av - \$597,500
648 Almazza Dr - \$320,000
3933 Angelo Av - \$300,000
696 Atchul Av - \$310,000
4033 Barner Av - \$722,000
3301 Brunell Dr - \$819,000
2824 Burton Dr - \$950,000
240 Caldecott 107 - \$559,000
3741 Canon Av - \$650,000

466 Capistrano Dr - \$390,000
1362 Chatham Rd - \$593,000
4654 Commonwealth - \$720,000
4656 Davenport Av - \$756,000
3319 Davis St - \$279,500
3315 Deering St - \$480,000
80 Donna Wy - \$600,000
6520 Dover St A - \$489,000
2449 East 22nd St - \$480,000
721 East 22nd St - \$320,000
1350 East 25th St - \$511,000
5606 Edgerly St - \$450,000
28 El Carmello - \$795,000
55 Fairmount 216 - \$297,000
338 Fairmount Av - \$298,000
801 Franklin St 1206 - \$470,000
989 Franklin St 601 - \$351,000
989 Franklin St 609 - \$590,000
989 Franklin St 619 - \$622,500
7724 Garfield Av - \$270,000
1400 Grand View - \$1,700,000
2196 Harrington - \$465,000
1552 Holman Rd - \$690,000
5726 Holway Ct - \$398,000
3950 Holyrood Dr - \$865,000
4101 Howe St 204 - \$490,000
1025 Hubert Rd - \$1,480,000
224 Inverness Ct - \$715,000
127 Ironwood - \$559,000
1 Kelton Ct 2A - \$360,000
2250 Lakeshore 1 - \$555,000
1 Lakeside 1706 - \$430,000
1 Lakeside 416 - \$355,000
200 Lakeside 801 - \$650,000
1 Lakeside 905 - \$640,000
33 Lane Ct - \$1,120,000
8919 Lawlor St - \$579,000
325 Lenox 310 - \$379,000
3011 Logan St - \$660,000
676 Longridge - \$1,250,000
3224 Lorenzo Av - \$500,000
3212 Maple Av - \$459,000
268 Marlow Dr - \$660,000
1115 MLK Jr Wy - \$354,500
5528 McMillan - \$1,200,000
7915 Michigan Av - \$625,000
7968 Michigan Av - \$575,000
1916 Montana St - \$445,000
3085 Monterey - \$1,200,000
2900 Morcom Av - \$715,000
2551 Mountain - \$815,000
738 Mountain - \$1,611,000
8117 Ney Av - \$700,000
311 Oak St 707 - \$435,000
6865 Oakwood Dr - \$1,155,000
1164 Ocean Av - \$590,000
233 Orange St 303 - \$320,000
3824 Park Bl - \$585,000
280 Park View 400 - \$625,500
2932 Partridge Av - \$430,000
150 Pearl St 316 - \$225,000
150 Pearl St 317 - \$300,000
11002 Robledo Dr - \$207,000
3050 Roxbury Av - \$815,000
25 Saddle Brook - \$870,000
7315 Saroni Dr - \$180,000
7352 Saroni Dr - \$800,000
6045 Shirley Dr - \$290,000
96 Sonia St - \$980,000
30 Southwood Ct - \$670,000
9863 Stanley Av - \$400,000
424 Staten 303 - \$370,000
4351 Steele St - \$560,000
7607 Sterling Dr - \$511,000
7333 Stunking Dr - \$650,000
3245 Suter St - \$429,000
716 Sycamore St - \$510,000
6130 Thornhill Dr - \$933,000
2200 Tiffin Rd - \$891,500

27 Town Square Pl - \$375,000
2175 Vicksburg - \$357,500
679 Walavista Av - \$837,500
4091 Whittie Av - \$605,000
3402 Wilson Av - \$520,000
6380 Wood Dr - \$900,000
3926 Woodruff - \$660,000

PIEDMONT

1087 Ashmount - \$1,365,000
4423 Moraga Av - \$567,000
4501 Moraga Av - \$540,000
114 Olive Av - \$800,000
150 Requa Rd - \$5,910,000
117 Sunnyside - \$1,000,000
7 Tyson - \$1,500,000
152 Wildwood - \$939,000

RICHMOND

167 17th St - \$460,000
259 1st St - \$375,000
644 24th St - \$500,000
624 26th St - \$515,000
535 31st St - \$542,000
801 32nd St - \$627,000
779 34th St - \$460,000
951 35th St - \$500,000
633 40th St - \$530,000
1845 4th St - \$340,000
2715 Andrade - \$325,000
3242 Annapolis - \$540,000
6040 Arlington Bl - \$650,000
2700 Barrett Av - \$490,000
132 Bayside Ct - \$272,000
17 Bayside Ct - \$360,500
203 Bayside Ct - \$451,500
214 Bayside Ct - \$420,000
40 Bayside Ct - \$481,500
46 Bayside Ct - \$404,500
53 Bayside Ct - \$447,000
95 Bayside Ct - \$349,000
894 Carlson Bl - \$335,000
465 Carlston St - \$803,000
1711 Cutting Bl - \$355,000
40 East Scenic Av - \$616,500
5515 Fresno Av - \$335,000
325 Hawk Ridge Dr - \$901,000
3136 Henderson Dr - \$425,000
2810 Lowell Av - \$382,000
3224 Maricopa Av - \$430,000
23 Marina Lakes 22 - \$312,500
148 Marina Lakes - \$408,000
197 Marina Lakes - \$352,500
212 Marina Lakes - \$352,500
233 Marina Lakes - \$261,500
4353 Nelson Dr - \$465,000
1565 Nevitt Plz - \$465,000
1611 Nome St - \$487,000
2804 Ohio Av - \$350,000
1300 Quarry 204 - \$530,000
210 Seaview Dr - \$962,500
212 Seaview Dr - \$917,000
670 S.20th St - \$385,000
255 S.22nd St - \$382,000
335 S.26th St - \$364,000
518 S.30th St - \$320,000
376 S.34th St - \$380,000
859 S.45th St - \$385,000
328 S.47th St - \$430,000
608 S.49th St - \$515,000
344 S. 9th St - \$370,000
336 South St - \$410,000
3275 Southridge - \$600,000
640 Stage Av - \$342,000
5423 Sutter Av - \$425,000
823 Virginia Av - \$455,000
4121 Wall Av - \$490,000

2656 Wilart Dr - \$505,000
2909 Wiswall - \$510,000
744 Yuba St - \$570,000
960 Yuba St - \$505,000

SAN LEANDRO

1229 144th Av - \$591,000
1205 147th Av B - \$360,000
1379 147th Av - \$650,000
1566 151st Av - \$530,000
1343 Ardmore Dr - \$812,500
15667 Baypoint - \$865,000
2394 Belvedere Av - \$463,000
295 Bowling Green - \$515,000
14011 Corvallis St - \$541,000
2768 Darius Wy - \$775,000
14113 Doolittle Dr - \$340,000
14101 E. 14th St 106 - \$352,000
14101 E. 14th St 114 - \$240,000
14101 E. 14th St 204 - \$400,000
14101 E. 14th St 209 - \$375,000
14101 E. 14th St 210 - \$265,000
14101 E. 14th St 310 - \$275,000
705 Estudillo Av - \$472,500
837 Glen Dr - \$755,000
894 Lewelling 20 - \$355,000
16029 Mateo St - \$450,000
952 Melcher St - \$515,000
15579 Oceanside - \$790,000
2181 Prosperity Wy - \$579,000
1011 San Jose St - \$400,000
14152 Tiburon Rd - \$605,000
369 Warren Av - \$525,000
1926 Washington - \$480,000
1438 Wayne Av - \$515,000

SAN LORENZO

1338 Culver Pl - \$371,000
16280 Galway Ct - \$525,000
663 Via Acalanes - \$550,000
16041 Via Alamitos - \$525,000
3404 Via Coches - \$595,000
16140 Via Sonora - \$574,000
905 William Dr - \$642,500

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 21
LOWEST PRICE: \$425,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,390,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$740,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$750,762

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$453,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$855,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$740,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$641,500

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 35
LOWEST PRICE: \$265,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$4,409,500
MEDIAN PRICE: \$695,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$874,743

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$738,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$907,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$830,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$822,100

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$210,000
HIGHEST PRICE:

RVers have many options for travel and hardware information

BY JEFF JOHNSTON
MOTOR MATTERS

Recreational vehicles are all about travel. Travel means exciting new places, adventures and the challenge of strange territory. RVing also involves a variety of sometimes-complicated hardware that can be especially confusing for newcomers to the fraternity.

With a bit of foot or keyboard work, today's RVers can find a wide variety of information sources to help make RVing more fun and easier, too. First, the Affinity Group RVing Web site portal (www.rv.net) is a great one-stop-shopping place to start looking for RV information. Check there first for links to a plethora of RV information.

Many still enjoy, and prefer, the use of paper maps. While state and national mapbooks are a start, they leave much to be desired when it comes to the small details. My per-

ROLLING HOMES

sonal favorites are the detailed state mapbooks, known as the Atlas & Gazetteer series, produced by DeLorme (delorme.com, (800) 561-5105). These books, one per state, are printed in the large road atlas size, but they break each state down into smaller sections that offer all the detail an RV needs for effective navigation.

The Oregon state book, for example, has 88 pages to cover the state. Those pages include listings of bicycle routes, boat ramps and fishing information, hiking trails, historic sites, campgrounds, forest and wilderness areas, unique natural features and other subjects of interest to travelers. The Gazetteer is handy when major campgrounds are filled on busy weekends. A look

at the Gazetteer reveals tiny, out-of-the-way and generally unadvertised campsites that may be available when commercial sites are packed.

A terrific book to augment the Gazetteer is the Trailer Life Campground/RV Park & Services Directory (tldirectory.com, 800-234-3450). The Campground Directory is a high-priority must-have guide when traveling. This dictionary-size book — the 2005 version has more than 1,840 pages — includes listings for more than 1 million RV parks and service locations across the United States, Canada and Mexico.

Each listing includes ratings for services, campground facilities and the like, along with directions and contact information. The Directory also includes details on RV maintenance, a state-by-state rules of the road list and other useful information. As they say, if you only buy one RVing guide this year, the Di-

rectory should be it.

For general information delivered to your door each month, you can't beat Trailer Life magazine, which covers all kinds of RVs; and MotorHome magazine, which as you probably guessed is all about motorhomes (trailerlife.com, 800-825-6861; motorhomemagazine.com, 800-678-1201). Each issue includes new RV road-test evaluations, new product reviews, travel features, technical hints and a realm of valuable information.

Also available from the Trailer Life people, the RV Buyer's Guide is an annual listing of hundreds of new RV models. The Buyer's Guide helps navigate your way through the confusing maze of options and models when shopping for a new rig. Grades can be a concern for many RVers, especially those with older rigs or marginally overloaded rigs that are prone to overheating.

The Mountain Directory (mountaindirectory.com, 800-594-5999) is available in East or West versions. Combined, both books include information covering more than 700 mountain passes in 22 states.

Each listing, keyed to detailed maps, includes maximum elevation, grade percent and length of grade, runaway truck ramp locations, grade approach information for each end, and so on. While originally aimed at the commercial truck driver market, RVers find these books very handy. They can help plan a route via the least-aggressive grades possible if it's a concern during travel.

Finally, there comes a time when every RV is going to need maintenance or repair. For both newcomers to RVing and old hands who need some nuts-and-bolts technical help, The RV Handbook, by Bill Estes, and Trailer Life's Repair & Maintenance Manual, by Bob Liv-

ingston, should be stashed away in every RV's mobile tool crib (tldirectory.com/shop, 800-667-4100).

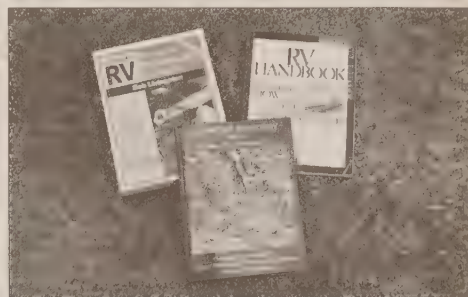
The RV Handbook is a detailed overview of many aspects of RVing, including selecting a tow vehicle, dinghy towing, taking care of tires and other subjects. The Repair & Maintenance Manual provides all the information needed to perform basic troubleshooting and repair on RV accessories, including the refrigerator, furnace and water heater, and covers electrical, plumbing, drivetrain and other systems.

Short of a trip to an RV dealer, these books can help motorists out of tight spots and save X a bundle of cash by doing it themselves.

Round up a few of these sources before you hit the road and you'll know where you're going, how tough it is to get there, and how to fix the rig if something goes wrong. That adds up to more RVing fun.

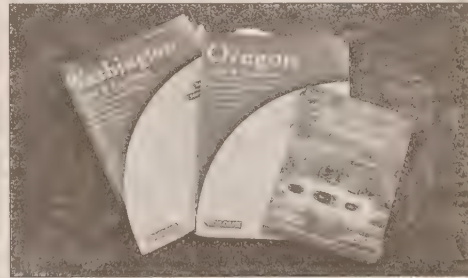


MOTOR MATTERS



MOTOR MATTERS

"THE RV HANDBOOK," by Bill Estes, and "Trailer Life's Repair & Maintenance Manual," by Bob Livingston, should be stashed away in every RV's mobile tool crib.



MOTOR MATTERS

DETAILED STATE MAPBOOKS, known as the Atlas & Gazetteer series, produced by DeLorme.

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES are all about travel. Travel means exciting new places, adventures and the challenge of strange territory. RVing also involves a variety of sometimes-complicated hardware that can be especially confusing for newcomers to the fraternity.

General Motors car prices to fall, but the incentives will stay

BY SARAH A. WEBSTER
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

DETROIT — The encore to General Motors Corp.'s wildly successful Employee Discount for Everyone program will not be the haggle-free, easy-to-understand car prices consumers seemed to be clamoring for as they poured into dealer showrooms during the past two months. GM said it will unveil another incentive program Tuesday — a day after it announced lower base prices on 80 of its 76 models and noted that it would add more standard features, such as OnStar, XM Satellite Radio and extended warranties, on many cars and trucks.

At the same time, cross-town rival Ford Motor Co. said it would lower prices on most 2006 models, closer to the actual price they usually sell for, and extend its employee discount program on 2005 models and a select group of 2006 cars and trucks through Labor Day.

Auburn Hills-based Chrysler

Group said it remained committed to its employee discount strategy, emphasizing that it would continue the program indefinitely.

Under GM's new strategy, the price of the Chevy Silverado Crew Cab will drop more than \$3,000 to \$27,990. Buicks will get standard quiet tuning packages and other features. Certain Cadillacs, meanwhile, will get satellite radio. And those are just a few of the highlights.

Consumers should check GM's Web site (www.gm.com) for prices on specific models because the changes are not across the board, and prices for a few vehicles will increase. Prices for the Chevy Cobalt, for example, will go up, but the car will get more standard features.

"We're trying to restore some sanity to the pricing environment in our industry," Mark LaNeve, GM's vice president of North American sales and marketing, said Monday in an interview promoting the new strategy on CNBC. "We're trying to get

very simple pricing."

The pricing changes at Ford also vary by model. Prices on the Ford Explorer SUV will drop \$635 to \$22,110, to a range of \$27,175 to \$36,585, depending on body style. Other changes can also be viewed on Ford's Web site (www.ford.com).

The moves by the domestic automakers seemed a stark contrast to the strategy at Toyota Motor Co., which announced Friday that its 2006 prices would be 1.2 percent higher than the current model year. That means Toyota is planning to bring in about \$255 more per vehicle on average, said Toyota spokesman Bill Kwong.

The employee discount program started by GM in June was a huge success, fueling an enormous spike in auto sales that month. Ford and Chrysler later duplicated the program, and it's expected that July sales will also surge. Automakers are expected to report July sales results today.

"We're not putting an end date on it," said Chrysler spokesman Kevin McCormick, who also noted that no new incentives are immediately planned for the company's 2006 Chrysler, Dodge and Jeep vehicles. "We're going to let customers tell us when they'd like us to move in a different direction."

In recent weeks, several auto analysts and insiders attributed the boom in showroom traffic and sales to the fact that the employee program offered clear, no-haggle discount pricing. They said it was a clear message to domestic automakers that they should cut their prices and curtail rebates and other incentives as much as possible.

In an interview before GM announced its pricing change on Monday, Mike Jackson, chief executive officer of AutoNation Inc., the largest chain of auto dealerships in the country, said the significance of the employee discount program was clear:

"I think the message is the days of inflated, artificial asking prices that nobody really pays, combined with huge discounts and rebates, are really over, and we need to view the employee pricing as a transition to a value-pricing approach."

"I think it's a historic opportunity to make that transition. I know it would involve a lot of courage and would involve price cuts. But I think that the message from the marketplace is overwhelming, and hopefully we can see the industry move there. ... Let's face it, the Japanese have been there for years."

After the announcement, Jackson said through a spokesman that he applauded the steps taken by GM, Ford and Chrysler.

But at least one prominent auto researcher said he does not think the pricing cuts at GM or Ford are aggressive enough.

Art Spinella, president of CNW Marketing Research in Bandon, Ore., said this is just a small step in the

right direction.

"They are going to suffer for it," Spinella said.

"Personally, I think GM really had an opportunity here to come off a wildly successful program with a way of wildly repricing new cars. They took that half step that GM likes to take. And they didn't do it. This isn't historic. This is something that's been done before. ... This isn't the end result they need."

Officials at GM and Ford said they decided to lower their base prices largely to remain competitive on independent Web sites, such as Cars.com and Edmunds.com, where consumers can compare prices from different manufacturers. The lower base price, both noted, will help keep their vehicles on shopping lists.

"We think the time is right ... now because of the growing use of the Internet to search for vehicles," said Steve Lyons, Ford's group vice president of North American marketing, sales and service.

Highway bill imposes strict car safety rules

BY DANNY HAKIM
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

DETROIT — Sweeping auto safety initiatives included in a transportation bill passed by Congress recently make it the most comprehensive traffic safety legislation in years.

As part of the bill, Congress is ordering the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to impose a number of more stringent safety measures, including the first performance standards aimed at decreasing the likelihood of a rollover, a particularly deadly kind of accident that claims more than 10,000 American lives annually. Currently, the agency conducts rollover testing, but the results are only used to determine ratings on cars and light trucks for consumer information.

A proposal for a rollover performance standard is required by Oct. 1, 2006, and a rule by April 1, 2009.

In addition, 15-passenger vans, which have been the subject of scrutiny because of their rollover risk, will be subject for the first time to government crash tests, including frontal and side impact testing and rollover testing. The vans, along with the sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks, will also be subject to some regulations from which they are currently exempt. The legislation bars schools from buying or leasing 15-passenger vans unless auto makers redesign them to meet the same safety requirements of school buses.

Government crash test ratings will also be posted on car and truck window stickers so consumers can see the information

when they are shopping.

Additionally, states will once again receive federal money if they pass laws that allow police officers to pull over drivers just because they are not wearing seatbelts, or if their state has a higher-than-average seatbelt use rate. Seatbelt use is a primary factor in lessening the severity of injury in accidents.

"This is the most important auto safety bill passed since 1991," said Joan Claybrook, the president of the consumer group Public Citizen and a former top regulator who was a proponent of many of the measures in the legislation.

"It grapples with the most serious problems causing death and injury on the highway today, rollover and side impact, and it forces action by a date certain by the government," she said.

In a statement Friday night, Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta commended Congress for passing the transportation legislation, saying it contained "significant new safety provisions" and "powerful incentives for states to increase safety belt usage."

Dr. Jeffrey W. Runge, the outgoing administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, a branch of the Transportation Department, has raised concerns in the past about Congress imposing timetables for new vehicle safety requirements, which were only one segment of the vast legislation. His office declined comment Friday afternoon.

Eron Shostek, a spokesman for the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, an in-

dustry lobbying group, said automakers were very supportive of the seat belt measure, which has also been a top priority of Runge's, but not about other aspects of the legislation.

"If we could just get all Americans to buckle up without changing any technology in any of the vehicles, we'd save 7,000 lives a year," Shostek said. He added that the traffic safety administration was already at work on some of the legislation's other measures and that the industry had voluntarily agreed to make improvements on its own.

"Dr. Runge has said many times that automakers can do it faster than regulation can," Shostek said.

There is some wiggle room in the legislation as drafted. The secretary of the Transportation Department, which oversees the traffic safety administration, is allowed to delay implementation of a measure if he notifies Congress, explains why the deadline cannot be met and establishes a new one.

Other steps Congress is demanding from the traffic safety agency:

- An overhaul of the current test procedure for vehicle roof strength, which dates to the 1970s and has been the subject of vigorous debate. Several automakers have argued that crushed roofs do not hurt people in rollover accidents. Consumer advocates have said that claim defies common sense. The agency, which is already working on a new roof rule, is required to make a proposal by the end of this year and have a final rule ready by July 1, 2008.
- A timetable for implementing new side impact tests already being developed by the

agency. The tests are aimed at mitigating risks posed by SUVs and pickup trucks when they collide with cars. The legislation says a final rule must be issued by July 1, 2008.

- New rules for preventing drivers and passengers from being thrown from their car or truck during an accident. Among the requirements will be tougher standards regarding the sturdiness of door locks.

- A final rule, implemented by April 1, 2007, that would mandate changes in power

window switches to make it much less likely for children to accidentally injure themselves.

- A study of the problem of vehicles accidentally backing over children in driveways. The problem has become an issue with the proliferation of taller and larger SUVs.

"Children are not just miniature adults; they have unique safety needs," Sen. Mike DeWine, R-Ohio, who was a backer of the proposal, said in a statement. "These measures work to make sure children are just as safe in cars as adults."

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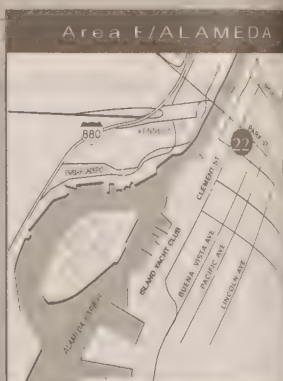
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DaimlerChrysler unveils new diesel concept car based on shape of fish

BY ANDRES R. MARTINEZ
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON — DaimlerChrysler unveiled a four-seat diesel concept car recently with a design that company officials said was derived from the efficient shape of the Australian boxfish.

"Our engineers have based it on a true hero of the deep sea," Thomas Weber, the head of research and technology at DaimlerChrysler's Mercedes Car Group, said at the automaker's Innovation Symposium at Washington's convention center.

He touted the boxfish — which looks like an armored, hard-nosed sunfish — for a shape so efficient that it rarely needs to move its fins. The boxfish, which is found off Australia's southeastern coast, grows to be 14 inches long.

The slab-paneled Bionic, which does resemble the boxfish, shares some of the fish's virtues, according to Weber and his colleagues. It's lightweight — thanks to lots of aluminum — and its diesel engine enables the four-cylinder car to get about 70 miles per gallon.

Mercedes-Benz engineers and designers came across the boxfish, Weber said, when they were seeking streamlined shapes in nature that they could adapt to make a car fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly.

The Bionic, which is intended as a concept car to test new ideas and technologies, has no price tag, the company said, as it probably will never be sold in its current form. The prospect of a new DaimlerChrysler diesel vehicle in the United States was surprising, considering the company's heavy investment in hybrid cars. "We are still committed to hybrid (technologies), because in a lot of cases it benefits the customer," Weber said.

Improved technologies now make diesel engines as efficient as gasoline and hybrid engines, although not as clean environmentally, according to automakers. While diesel cars are proving popular in Europe,

the U.S. market for light-car diesels is largely untapped.

Mercedes-Benz already offers an SUV — the E 320 CDI — with advanced diesel technology, and Chrysler uses a similar engine in the Jeep Liberty. DaimlerChrysler is the parent company of Jeep and Mercedes-Benz.

Brett Smith, the assistant director of manufacturing at the Center for Automotive Research, based in Ann Arbor, Mich., speculated that DaimlerChrysler is using the fish concept to stress the improvement of its diesel engines in a U.S. market skeptical of diesels. The boxfish also puts an environmentally friendly face on a fuel that's associated with air pollution.

"The real goal is here to give some positive spin that says diesel is friendly and efficient," Smith said.

He cautioned that the Bionic might never reach U.S. showrooms.

Unlike American regulators, Smith said, European ones tend to focus more on fuel efficiency and less on emissions. In the United States — especially in California — regulators emphasize the need for cleaner emissions.

For more information online, visit www.daimlerchrysler.com and click on "Daily News."

Specs — DaimlerChrysler Bionic

Vehicle type: Mercedes-Benz concept car

Engine: Four-cylinder diesel engine
Displacement: 1991 cubic centimeters
Horsepower: 140

Torque: 221 pounds at 1,600-3,000 rpm

Intake system: Common-rail direct injection, particulate filter, selective catalytic reduction

Transmission: AUTOTRONIC continuously variable automatic transmission

Performance: 0-60 mph: 7.9 seconds

Top speed: 118 mph

Fuel mileage: about 70 miles per gallon

Fuel tank: 14.3 gallons/54 liters



DAIMLERCHRYSLER UNVEILED a diesel concept car, above, aimed at American consumers with a design inspired by the streamlined shape of the boxfish, inset.

Keeping cool after an accident Biofuels — an alternative fuel source

While accidents sometimes cannot be avoided, you can respond in a fashion that helps in the handling of repairs and insurance claims.

The following tips should be kept in mind:

■ Stay calm. After an accident, determine the extent of injuries or damage. Obtain medical assistance immediately if needed.

■ Call the police to file an accident report. It's critical to have a record of the accident when you attempt to file an insurance claim. If one police is unable to come to the scene, ask if you can create an accident report over the phone with both parties present.

■ Limit discussion of the accident. Talk only with police or with your insurance agent.

■ Gather all the critical facts to help ensure you have everything necessary for insurance purposes. This includes date and time of the accident; name of other driver and other contact information; license plate and driver's license numbers and states; his/her insurance com-

pany and policy number; name of witness and his/her phone number.

■ Keep a disposable camera in your car. Taking photos at the scene of both vehicles, including the license plates, may help support insurance claims down the road.

If there was damage to your car, you will have to have the vehicle inspected so you can file an insurance claim. Keep the following information handy when you're filing a claim:

■ Date of the occurrence

- Type of loss or damage
- Location of the occurrence
- Related injuries
- Others involved
- The damage to your vehicle
- Whether authorities such as police, fire department or ambulance were notified.

The important thing is to report your insurance claim as soon as possible, even if you don't have all the information.

For more information, please visit www.allstate.com.

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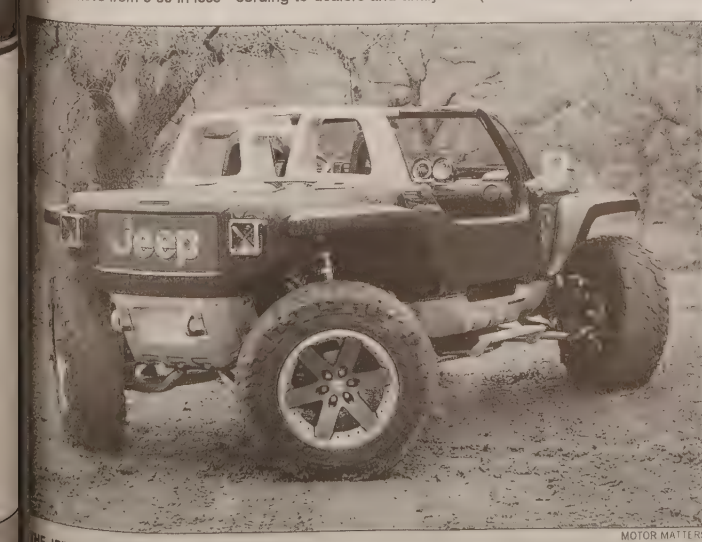


SPARE PARTS

That Jeep gotta HEMI? When the Jeep Hurricane concept vehicle blew onto the 2005 North American International Auto Show stage, it raised the bar for the Jeep brand. Hurricane has powerful powertrain performance for it is not just HEMI-equipped, but HEMI squared. There are two 5.7-liter HEMI engines in the vehicle: one in the front and one in the back. Both engines deliver 335 horsepower and 370 pounds-foot of torque a total of 670 horsepower and 740 pounds-foot of torque. It has the power and traction to move from 0-60 in less

than 5 seconds.
Sales are up: Some General Motors Corp. dealers are extending hours to handle the traffic. Chrysler's new pitchman Lee Iacocca is prompting consumers to inundate its call centers. And Ford Motor Co.'s newest models are moving off lots at a faster clip. Detroit's latest marketing gambit — employee discount prices for all — is proving to be more than a one-month wonder, drawing heavy showroom traffic in July after propelling GM to a record June, according to dealers and analysts.

(Source: Detroit News)
Rivals awarded: Two longtime Detroit rivals, Lincoln and Cadillac, bested the rest of the auto industry in a new survey of owner satisfaction with service work they got on their vehicles at dealerships. For the second year in a row, Lincoln took the top spot in the Customer Service Index from J.D. Power and Associates. Ford Motor's biggest luxury brand was followed by Cadillac and Saturn, both General Motors brands and Toyota's luxury brand, Lexus. (Source: Detroit News)



THE JEEP HURRICANE has two 5.7-liter HEMI engines: one in the front and one in the back.

Please recycle this newspaper.

NAPSI

An alternative to high priced gas and reliance on foreign oil that doesn't require new kinds of car engines can be found in home-grown biofuels.

Biofuels are liquid transportation fuels made from plants instead of petroleum. Ethanol and biodiesel — the primary biofuels today — can be blended with or substituted for gasoline and diesel for use in unmodified automobiles and trucks at low blend levels. The big-three American automakers all offer several models of flex-fuel vehicles capable of using up to 85 percent ethanol blended with gasoline at no price premium over similar cars.

Using these biofuels can reduce air pollution, greenhouse gas buildup, dependence on imported oil and trade deficits, while sup-

porting agriculture and the American economy.

Understanding ethanol: Ethanol, also known as grain alcohol, is made from corn and other grains. Ethanol contains approximately one-third more energy than is required to produce it and deliver it to fueling stations. In the near future it will also be made from rice straw, comstalks, municipal solid waste, and energy crops such as switchgrass.

There are other benefits. Ethanol burns cleaner, emitting less carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons than plain gasoline.

Biodiesel: Biodiesel, which is used in diesel-powered vehicles as well as stationary generators, is made from such things as oil from soybeans and used cooking oil.

The amount of used cooking oil now disposed of in the U.S. exceeds

the current potential demand for biodiesel fuel, making it an abundant resource. Another advantage of biodiesel is its high lubricity which helps the moving parts of engines to last longer.

Biodiesel dramatically cuts air toxins, carbon monoxide, soot, smog particles and hydrocarbon emissions in half.

Furthermore, since the raw materials for ethanol and biodiesel are produced domestically, using these fuel sources helps American farmers. In fact, experts estimate about a third of our transportation fuel needs can be met by domestically produced biofuels.

Learn more: To learn more about ethanol, biodiesel and other alternative fuels, go to www.eere.energy.gov/vehiclesandfuels/ or www.eere.energy.gov/biomass.

A motorbike 167 years in the making

BY ROYAL FORD
THE BOSTON GLOBE

Intelligent Energy, of Britain, aims to launch motorbikes powered by fuel cells (prototypes above) late next year.

Consider the fuel cell.

Its properties were demonstrated in 1839 by William Grove, a Welsh judge, inventor, and physicist. He mixed hydrogen and oxygen in the presence of an electrolyte and produced electricity and water.

No noise, no pollution, no unwanted byproducts. But not enough electricity to be a useful device then.

Ever since, the possibilities have been tantalizing.

After all, fuel cells have been proven to work. And not only in the laboratory but in the most demanding of applications: They provide both electricity and drinking water (at the same time) on the space shuttle. That was one case of science fiction becoming fact.

All manner of fuel cell-powered vehicle prototypes have been developed in an attempt to harness this Holy Grail of energy.

The potential remains incredibly inviting — in business, political and environmental circles — especially when we can foresee the production of virtually unlimited power from renewable agricultural resources (sugar cane, sugar beets, corn), along with weaning ourselves from fossil fuels, resources that remain politically charged.

But problems such as obtaining hydrogen, producing enough power from the cells, and making the technology affordable have always kept that Grail tantalizingly out of reach.

It could be that's about to change. Or has changed.

To those of us who said, "Show us the vehicles already," a British company, Intelligent Energy, last month replied, "Here it is."

The company introduced the ENV (pronounced "Envy," an acronym for energy neutral vehicle). No, it's not a bus, nor an SUV, nor even a family sedan. It's a motorbike designed for the urban commuter. A fuel cell-powered motorbike.

Huh? A motorbike is going to save us from relying on imported oil? Maybe, just maybe.

"The first objective is to show what the fuel cell is capable of," said Andy Eggleston, vice president

and ENV project director for Intelligent Energy, after the company unveiled the vehicle in Los Angeles on June 14.

The photos tell much of the story: The vehicle has contemporary styling. It looks like a motorbike and, more important, performs like one.

What differentiates it from a traditional motorcycle or one of Europe's ubiquitous swarms of scooters are several characteristics.

It's silent. Imagine visiting Rome without its "background music," the buzz of a million Vespas. "We're talking silent not quiet," said Eggleston. "It makes about as much noise as the fans in your desktop computer's CPU tower."

There are no exhaust fumes, just water vapor. "Put your hand over the exhaust vent and all you'll feel is a humid vapor," said Eggleston.

It costs about \$3 to \$4 per fill-up (5 ounces of hydrogen), which is enough to transport it 100 miles. "Once a network of fueling stations is in place, that cost should drop to something more like 25 cents," said Eggleston.

There's no transmission, just a big belt or chain driving a big sprocket on the rear wheel. "It'll do 0-30 in five seconds, 0-50 in 12," Eggleston said. Cut the rear sprocket to half its size and acceleration would suffer but top speed would theoretically double. "There's no need for a transmission," he said. "With an electric motor peak torque is at start-up. It's not a slingshot, but you'd be amazed at the acceleration."

Sounds good. So what's the downside?

For now, refueling and price. "Hydrogen is readily available. One phone call in any major city and a truck can drop off a canister," said Eggleston. "It's just not readily available along the highway."

A subsidiary of Intelligent Energy is working on several sizes of "reformers" — devices that would produce hydrogen from natural gas, such as ethanol or bio-mass. "We're projecting a home-sized unit might retail for \$1,500," Eggleston said. "You'd pour ethanol or a bio-mass (sugar cane, corn, sugar beets) in one end and hydrogen gas comes out the other end for the bike."

Convenient, yes. But you'd have to convert a lot of hydrogen to make

it cost-effective.

But the company isn't stopping with motorbikes. It envisions portable fuel cells such as its "CORE" — the seven-pound fuel cell stack used in the ENV — being able to power anything from an ATV to a personal watercraft to a small home.

The company pitched its system to manufacturers for several years, finding a combination of interest and foot-dragging. "Finally we took the wool into our own hands," said Eggleston.

Since the introduction of the prototypes, "We've been deluged by responses from all over the world," Eggleston said. "It's proven what we suspected all along and what independent surveys have shown: that the public is more ready for this technology than tradition manufacturers would have you believe."

The company's target price for the bike is \$6,000, which may be overly optimistic.

Eggleston, once in charge of developing the website for "a major automotive manufacturer," points out reasons he believes this initiative will work:

The life of the fuel cell. "Figure a motorbike is ridden two hours a day, five days a week. That's about 500 hours a year, 5,000 hours in 10 years. We've had a fuel cell of the type in the bike in continuous use for more than 16,000 hours."

The market. The kids with the baggy shorts. The ones with skateboards and BMX bikes are saying, "Fantastic. Thank God someone built a machine like this," he said. "These kids know what's happening. They're aware of global warming and terrorists and oil cartels."

"The message we've delivered with the prototype is that the fuel cell-powered vehicle is here," said Eggleston.

Well, almost. The production launch is late next year, and a variety of distribution systems are under consideration.

From Grove's discovery in 1839 until 2006. A motorbike that was 167 years in the making should be pretty good.

"You can see the day when man will be free to travel at will without cost to the earth," Eggleston said.

The world awaits, though the cost won't be cheap for the "early adopters."

From Roman gods to elephants, tiny hood ornaments tell big stories

BY JERRY GARRETT
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

For almost a century, the focal point of a Rolls-Royce's front end has been a gleaming figurine called the Spirit of Ecstasy, a sculpture by Charles Robinson Sykes. To this day, the classical pose and graceful proportions of the statuette reflect the cars' refined, stately manner.

While the Rolls "flying lady" is probably the most recognizable — and enduring — mascot ever to adorn an automobile, nearly every car produced before World War II carried some form of ornamentation on its hood. Over the years these miniature artworks have included characters from mythology, graceful birds and sleek dogs, stylized wheels and sailing ships — usually an effort by the designer to symbolize the car's most worthy traits.

In some cases, poignant back stories explain the choice of hood ornaments, adding to the legacy of the cars on which they appeared.

Consider the Type 41 Bugatti of 1929-33, a regal automobile so exclusive that only a half-dozen were ever made; it remains one of

the world's most valuable cars. On this model, known as the Royale, an elephant stood prominently at the leading edge of the hood.

Why an elephant? Not for any anthropomorphic qualities, but because of tragedy in the founding family. Rembrandt Bugatti, the younger brother of Ettore, the carmaker, was a famous sculptor noted for climbing into zoo cages to have a closer look at the animals he was depicting. Rembrandt, who was awarded the Legion of Honor, France's highest distinction, for his work, took his own life in 1916; years later, Ettore adopted the elephant for the Royale's hood in tribute to his brother.

Recently, hood ornaments have become a subject of performance art, in the form of tableaux vivants, or "living pictures."

Live performers will recreate hood ornaments at this year's Pageant of the Masters, an arts festival that has taken place each summer since 1933 in Laguna Beach, Calif. The theme of this year's pageant, which runs through Sept. 1, is "On the Road: A Crash Course in Art and Popular Culture."

Between recreations of paint-

ings and photographs that depict transportation themes as diverse as hitchhiking and river-boating, a 40-foot facade of a classic Rolls-Royce seems to crash through a hedge beside the darkened stage, its headlights blazing. Atop its radiator shell is Kasey Perry, covered in metallic silver makeup like a chrome Bond Girl, starring as the Spirit of Ecstasy.

Next, three human-size versions of ornaments — Mercury, the Roman messenger used on Buicks in the 1930s; the Archer of classic Pierce-Arrows; and the Goddess of Speed that once graced Packards — cruise across the adjacent stage to enthusiastic applause from nightly sell-out crowds of 2,600.

The hood ornaments were selected by Diane Challis Davy, the pageant director. "I'm not a car enthusiast myself," she said. "I'm nostalgic for that particular style of vehicle. They had personality, the kind of thing we miss today."

The pageant is, to say the least, a distinctly Left Coast sort of event, featuring dozens of depictions of famous artworks in which live actors freeze-frame for a minute or

so in framed settings identical to those of the original works. After each year's show, most sets are destroyed; the whole thing is as ephemeral as a Rose Parade float.

Like other hood ornaments, the Spirit of Ecstasy sculpture has a story behind it. Rolls-Royce buffs know that the model for the ornament was Eleanor Thornton, a real-life beauty with a tragic story.

She was secretary to, and lover of, the 2nd Lord Montagu, the publisher of Britain's pioneer auto magazine, The Car. Not only did she never get to marry her socially superior boss, she drowned in 1915 when the ship she was traveling on was struck by a torpedo. Lord Montagu was rescued.

One Buick mascot of the 1930s was the Roman god Mercury, which might seem an odd choice since there is a competing car line with that name — but Buick's ornament predated Ford's subsidiary by several years. The Buick ornament was created by Casimer Cislis, an artist who did contract work for Ternstedt Manufacturing, which designed mundane items like door handles, trim pieces and gas caps.

Most Ternstedt stylists toiled in relative obscurity. But their works have stood the test of time as the most memorable feature on a series of mostly forgettable General Motors cars of the 1920s and 1930s. Dozens of Ternstedt's nickel-plated zinc hood ornaments have become collectors' items and are recognized as objets d'art.

Tony Wright, a prominent British collector, estimates that as many as 20,000 mascots have been made for cars since 1900. Most were accessory items that could be purchased separately and fitted to almost any vehicle.

"There are only a few that can be truly considered as works of art," Wright said. Many of his favorites were designed by a noted jewelry artist, Rene Lalique. The Lalique creations, using his signature frosted glass, could be wired for illumination.

Many early hood ornaments also featured temperature gauges, which was why they capped radiators in the first place. The golden age of ornaments ended in the early 1930s when designers relocated radiators under hoods and put temperature gauges on dashboards. Few new

cars today have hood ornaments for reasons including cost, aerodynamics, pedestrian safety and poorly defined corporate identity.

Original ornaments are sold without the added financial benefit of buying the car to which they are attached. From collectors' auctions, they can be sold for as little as \$100 or as much as \$10,000, depending on the car and the ornament.

Don Sommer of Car Classics, produces stinging replicas of what he considers the most praiseworthy ornaments. He casts each figure using the original method, in which the metal is poured into a mold to reveal the car's original ornaments — 3,000 — remain his trademark.

"Prices have escalated in recent years," Sommer says. He e-mails me a picture of a Cadillac Cadillac Herald statue valued at \$1,600 or so today; he has a perfect Lalique Victoire statue, Hershey, Pa., swap meet price for \$12,000. "Rembrandt's elephant is less,"

Porsche to debut its first four-door sports car in 2009

BY JIM MATEJA
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — Obviously, nothing is sacred.

Porsche announced Wednesday that it will make its second break from its two-door, two-passenger sports-car heritage.

The first was a sport utility vehicle in 2003 called Cayenne. This time, the German automaker is coming out with a four-door, four-passenger sports car for the 2009 model year called Panamera.

"I suspect Ferdinand Porsche is rolling in his grave — again," said Joe Philippi, principal of AutoTrends, a New Jersey automotive consulting firm, in referring to the founder of the German sports-car maker.

"This is an example of the industry's herd instinct. If a niche exists, you can count on someone filling it — and two others copying it," Philippi said, adding how

Porsche followed Mercedes-Benz and BMW.

Venturing into new territory isn't uncommon in the industry. Even Cadillac joined the SUV craze to much acclaim in 1999.

Some will argue that it took several decades for Porsche to stray from building just high-performance two-seaters by acknowledging that those who own Porsches have families and friends who like to tag along, thus requiring four doors and two rows of seats.

Porsche is, however, going to cling to its naming conventions, calling what most observers would say was a sedan, a sports coupe.

Porsche was mum on details, giving no dimensions, powertrain, amenities or price of the machine.

"We wanted to end speculation that such a car was coming," said Porsche spokesman Bob Carlson, though in doing so the company

raised speculation about what the car will offer.

Panamera will join the Boxster, 911 and Carrera GT cars and Cayenne SUV. It will be built in the German plant where the Cayenne and Carrera GT supercar are assembled. Wendelin Wiedeking, president and chief executive of Porsche AG, said the company will invest more than \$1 billion to create the car, with worldwide sales expected at 20,000 units annually, 40 percent of them in the United States.

"There are no plans for a joint venture with another carmaker," to reduce the investment cost, he said. Porsche did that when it shared development of the Cayenne with Volkswagen, which calls its version Touareg.

Carlson said the Panamera would be larger than a 911 and feature a front-engine/rear-wheel-drive configuration that could be adapted to all-wheel-drive.

It will offer a choice of engines, but Carlson said he couldn't elaborate because the bosses back in Germany haven't either.

No word on top speed, though Carlson noted that if a Panamera should pass a Corvette or Mustang GT, the Chevrolet and Ford would have to complete their journey minus doors.

Porsche prices range from \$43,000 to \$55,000 for a Boxster; \$41,000 to \$90,000 for a Cayenne; \$70,000 to \$90,000 for a 911; and \$440,000 for a Carrera GT.

Despite speculation Panamera would be priced in the low six figures, Carlson insisted that estimate might be high.

No word on amenities either, but Carlson said one feature that probably will be offered is a navigation system. Performance enthusiasts demand them.

But why a four-door Porsche? For the same reason we offer

a four-door sport utility," Carlson said. "It's the world sport and that's what we do best, and why there's no reason not to expand sport into different classes of cars, such as a four-door car that has the same performance philosophy as our other vehicles."

Porsche will join Maserati in the four-door performance market. First-year production of its Quattroporte, pegged at 1,600, has sold out for the vehicle priced at \$107,000.

Panamera will be the only Porsche other than Cayenne to hold more than two people. The 911 2-plus-2 has a rear seat, but even Carlson admits that human habitation is impossible.

"Our surveys showed that 40 percent of those who own a Porsche owned an SUV, and that's why we came out with Cayenne and we are coming out with Panamera, because while it will appeal to a limited audience, it will broaden our customer

base to people with families," Carlson said.

Cayenne went on sale in January of 2003, and since sales have topped 37,000 in the United States and worldwide. Carlson points to it as a huge success because sales are still growing.

"There also will be those who welcome the Panamera as a four-door will help them vince the wife they need to chase a Porsche," he added. The predominantly male graphic of Porsche buyers in the United States and expects to top that 35,000 units in 2005. World sales are expected to reach 75,000 units, up from 70,000 in 2004. Porsche's long goal is U.S. sales of more than 50,000 annually.

Though rumored for a while, the Frankfurt Auto Show in September, Carlson said Panamera won't appear at any auto show until six to eight months before it goes into production.

Cars with high mileage can offer high value if properly investigated

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

ORLANDO, Fla. — Once, it was the point when we summoned a priest — or at least a mechanic — to give the car its last rites: 100,000 miles on the odometer meant that, with rare exceptions, your vehicle had just gone from being a vital form of transportation to a planter.

Dust to dust.
Rust to rust.

That's changed. Make no mistake, though — 100,000 is still a lot of miles, but modern vehicles, with careful driving and proper care, can hit six digits and then some. Good maintenance is actually more important than the car's brand.

"If you care for them properly, most will give you years of good service," says Steve Mitchell, owner of Mitchell's Automotive in Orlando.

"I have a customer in here right now with 225,000 miles on his Jeep," Mitchell says, but he stresses that scheduled maintenance and top-quality synthetic oil — Amsoil, in the case of this particular Jeep — has kept it running well past re-

tirement age.

Even so, there are some vehicles that just seem to last longer than others and are, consequently, good used-car buys for customers on a budget. It's unrealistic to expect any vehicle to top 100,000 miles with no maintenance — If you make it that far without spending at least a little money on oil, tires, batteries and brakes, you're leading a charmed life — but some vehicles seem to need less work than others.

Buying a car with high mileage is also a way to get into a nicer vehicle than you might be able to otherwise. According to www.Edmunds.com, an online pricing resource, a 1995 Lexus LS 400 with 125,000 miles should sell for \$7,949 in a private-party transaction. Edmunds prices that identical car, with 50,000 miles, at \$9,612.

Before you consider a high-mileage vehicle, the more you know about the vehicle's history, the better. Obtaining a www.CarFax.com report is a start. CarFax traces a vehicle's identification number to see

how many owners it has had and whether it has been involved in crashes, floods or other incidents.

It's just a start, though: CarFax can't learn everything and has no idea whether the oil has been changed regularly. That's why obtaining service records is important. I recently bought a used car from an individual whose records were so complete that he wrote down when he added windshield-wiper fluid. Adherence to a routine of regular oil changes and regularly scheduled service — the vehicle's owner's manual will give you the suggested details — is critically important.

In general, highway miles are better than city miles; fewer stops and starts, for one thing. And nothing against teenagers — I used to be one and have pictures to prove it — but few people consider a vehicle's history that includes teen drivers to be an asset.

That said, what are a few of the better bets in high-mileage models?

Larry Perry, the owner of the Magic Mechanic shop in Orlando,

radio host and co-author of an automotive question-and-answer newspaper column, has some favorites.

He likes the 1992 and up Mercury Marquis, Ford Crown Victoria, and Lincoln Town Car models — similar cars under the skin — with the modular 4.6-liter V8 engine. Not only are these cars typically reliable, they are usually owned by older drivers, who may be more conservative in driving habits, more proactive in maintenance.

Perry also likes the 1997 and up Ford F-150 pickup, and its derivative SUVs, the Ford Expedition and Lincoln Navigator with the aforementioned 4.6-liter V8 and that engine's bigger brother, the 5.4-liter. For something sportier, he also likes the Ford Mustang GTs with that 4.6-liter engine.

A caveat about 4.6-liter V8 cars, though: "Make sure it isn't a smoker. When spark plugs are changed in these engines without blowing the sand out of the spark-plug cavities, the sand can fall into the cylinders and ruin the cylinder

walls, pistons and rings." Smoke from the exhaust is an early sign.

Perry also likes the 1995 and up Nissan Altima — "good cars, but they do have occasional distributor problems" — plus the 1995 and up Nissan Maxima. He is also a Toyota/Lexus fan and likes the 1992 and newer Lexus GS 300, LS 400 and SC 400, and the 1998 and up LX 470. Toyota trucks and SUVs are durable, he says, citing the Toyota Tacoma, Tundra, Sequoia, 4Runner and Land Cruiser, no matter what the year.

Ask Steve Mitchell, and two cars come immediately to mind: the Toyota Camry and Honda Accord. "They're so hard to beat. Take care of them, and they run forever." Resale value is also especially strong for the pair, he says: "A Camry or Accord that runs well and has a working air conditioner is worth \$2,000 no matter how old they get."

Mitchell also likes the Nissan Maxima and Altima, as well as General Motors pickup trucks. He's a fan of Buicks, especially the models with the 3.8-liter V6 en-

gines. "If you want a domestic Buick LeSabre with that engine in it will give you great value for years."

Personally, I like the Corolla and its underpinned the Chevrolet Prism. I bought a 2000 and newer Chevrolet Corolla, especially with that 3.8-liter engine. Dodge Ram trucks, from and up, offer good service looks and strong resale. Mazda Miata, all the way to their 1990 origin, are durable and easy to fix, with a plethora of aftermarket parts available that just won't roll over and die.

What you shouldn't do from any vehicle with 100,000 miles is a guarantee of value. One of the reasons people new cars is the expectation they'll start every time, with latest safety features and a warranty to cover problems that arise. You won't have the high-mileage used vehicle that's a trade-off for low, or normal, monthly payments.

Tax credits for hybrids

BY JEREMY W. PETERS
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

DETROIT — Tucked away on page 1,391 of the 1,724-page energy bill approved by Congress this week is a new tax credit intended to make fuel-efficient vehicles like hybrids more appealing to consumers. But as is often the case with tax credits, the devil is in the details.

The bill limits the number of vehicles eligible for the credit. That means automakers like Toyota and Honda that have more advanced hybrid programs will see their vehicles become ineligible faster than companies like DaimlerChrysler and General Motors,

whose advanced hybrid technology will not be available until later this decade.

The energy bill sets up a complex formula that begins restricting eligibility for the tax credit once an automaker sells 60,000 gas-electric hybrids or cleaner burning diesels, know as advanced lean-burn vehicles. Once an auto company hits the 60,000 mark, it has the remainder of that fiscal quarter plus one additional quarter in which buyers of its vehicles can receive the full credit. The credit ranges from \$250 to \$3,400 depending on the fuel efficiency of the vehicle.

During the two quarters immediately after the cars and trucks of

the automakers become ineligible for the full credit, buyers would receive 50 percent of the credit. The next two quarters after that, the credit is 25 percent. The credit is phased out entirely at the end of the fifth full quarter after the automaker sells 60,000 hybrids or advanced diesels.

By capping the credit, Congress has limited the incentives available to companies that have been at the forefront of hybrid technology.

"Ironically isn't it?" said Ed Cohen, Honda's vice president for government and industry relations. "It really does create market mismatch."

Because Toyota already produces many hybrids, its vehicles could become ineligible for the full credit during the first year.

If President Bush signs the energy bill, the clock begins ticking on Jan. 1, the date the tax credit

would take effect. This year alone, Toyota expects to sell 140,000 hybrids. If sales continue at that level next year, Toyota could hit the 60,000-vehicle cap in the second quarter, giving it until the end of the third quarter before its cars and trucks become eligible only for a reduced tax credit.

Honda faces a similar predicament. It estimates annual hybrid sales at 50,000, meaning that its vehicles could become ineligible for the full credit sometime by mid-2007. That would be nearly two years before the credits expire on Dec. 31, 2009.

The Ford Motor Co., the first American automaker to embrace hybrid technology in passenger cars and trucks, would also see its vehicles lose eligibility for the full credit before the program expires. Ford currently sells about

20,000 hybrids a year. Over the next three years, however, it will add hybrid technology to three additional models, giving it a total of five hybrid models.

David Friedman, a research director at the Union for Concerned Scientists, said one upside to capping the credit was that it would give companies that have been slow to adopt hybrid technology an incentive to move faster. "What you could argue is that it does penalize the companies that have been out ahead on the issue. On the other hand, it also encourages the laggards to start catching up."

General Motors and DaimlerChrysler, two companies that have been slow to embrace hybrids, could conceivably take advantage of the tax credit program as long as it is in effect. Neither company currently sells hybrid passenger vehi-

cles similar to models that Toyota offer, but over the next several years they will begin doing so.

Some who oppose capping the tax credit have said it is a Congress to make Japanese hybrids less appealing to consumers as American automakers sell more hybrids of their own. While that is up for debate, certainly played a role in the credit. The cost of alternative technology vehicles credits in the bill is \$800 million. That includes tax breaks for hybrids and cleaner burning diesels but for fuel cell alternative fuel vehicles as well.

"We feel pretty strongly that 80,000 is a good number," Dan Brouillette, Ford's vice president for government and public affairs, said. "They're just not going to be a trillion-dollar energy bill."

Proper tire care helps keep your vehicle rolling

Experts say poor maintenance of a vehicle's tires is a risk no motorist can afford. GM Goodwrench is reminding drivers of the importance of maintaining their tires to help avoid uneven wear, poor performance — or even blowouts, which may result in loss of control of the vehicle.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates tire

failures or blowouts contribute to more than 400 deaths and 10,000 injuries in the U.S. each year. Yet, statistics show that some drivers don't follow the basic tire maintenance guidelines that can help prevent tire failures. According to the Car Care Council, 26 percent of the vehicles inspected at checkpoints during Car Care Month 2004 had low air pressure in one or more tires.

"Although today's tires are more technologically advanced than ever before, regular visual inspections and maintenance are critical to enabling tires to perform at their best," said Doug Herberger, GM North America vice president and general manager of service and parts operations.

Underinflation is the leading cause of tire failure, according to the Rubber Manufacturers Association.

Underinflation or overloading creates excessive stresses and heat, and can lead to tire failure and a crash.

Changes in outdoor temperature can affect the rate at which a tire loses air. Typically, a tire loses one to two pounds of pressure per month, and even more in warm weather.

To help avoid underinflation, the Rubber Manufacturers Association

recommends checking the air pressure in your tires at least once a month and before every long trip. Tires must be checked when they are cold — that is, before they have run for one mile. Experts also say you should never "bleed" or reduce air pressure when tires are hot — it's normal for pressure to build up as a result of driving.

If your tire sustains a blowout while you are driving, don't slam on your brakes — that can cause your car to swerve in the direction of the blowout. Instead, gently apply the

brakes to regain control and guide the vehicle to a safe place from the road.

Drivers can help prevent tire failures with expert advice from their dealers. Goodwrench encourages motorists to visit their local Goodwrench for an inspection to ensure the vehicle is up-to-date on its maintenance needs. The inspection point out items needing attention, help a vehicle run better, and retain its value and provide safety and security.

Stuck in traffic — again

MS
Americans spend 3.7 billion hours a year in congested traffic according to the Texas Transportation Institute's 2005 Urban Mobility Report. This translates to 2.3 billion gallons of wasted fuel. Overall, more than a third of America's major urban roads suffer from congestion. The result is reduced economic efficiency, higher costs for goods, and a weakening of our ability to compete globally. Many of these bottlenecks result from America's aging transportation infrastructure. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) recently released its 2005 Report Card on the nation's infrastructure. Overall, we're slightly above a failing grade — get-

ting a D. How do we raise our grade? According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the federal government must invest about \$59 billion annually between 2004 and 2009 to help reverse our deteriorating bridges and highways.

Bridges represent a key component of our transportation system. Compared to roads, they're expensive and require more time to construct. The ASCE report notes that

27 percent of the nation's 592,500 bridges are deficient or obsolete. Standardized bridge designs, modern technologies, and innovative construction practices can help bring this percentage down to a more tolerable level.

According to Conn Abney, executive director of the National Steel Bridge Alliance, new, cost-effective designs, innovative construction practices, and high performance materials are beginning to reduce the cost of bridges. High performance steels, for example, permit lighter bridge girders and longer span lengths. Lighter girders require smaller found-

ations and reduce construction requirements. Longer span lengths minimize the number of supporting piers and lessen environmental impact. Such advances, as they become integrated into our highway system, reduce the investment necessary to improve our infrastructure.

The Federal Highway Administration states that every dollar invested in the nation's highway system yields \$5.40 in economic benefits. These paybacks result from reduced delays, improved safety, and reduced vehicle operating costs. This means that funds allocated to our nation's highways and bridges are really investments — investments that will eventually lessen the hours we spend stuck in traffic.

To check your state's infrastructure grade, log on to ASCE's Web site www.asce.org/reportcard/2005/states.cfm.



STUCK IN TRAFFIC AGAIN? Deteriorating infrastructure is a major cause of congestion on our nation's bridges and highways.

2006 Cadillac DTS gets new styling, refinement and name for 2006

BY ANN M. JOB
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
President Bush and Donald Trump aren't the only ones to ride in style in Cadillacs refreshed full-size sedan.

Beginning this fall, consumers will find the 2006 version of the Cadillac DeVille at dealerships, albeit several months after Bush and Trump received keys to their new Cadillacs.

Cadillac's largest car is restyled, inside and out, for a more modern, upscale look, has new, more ergonomic seats and updated suspension tuning and adds 18-inch factory wheels for first time.

Cadillac's largest auto isn't called the DeVille anymore, though. Following the nomenclature that Cadillac started to adopt some four years ago when it introduced its CTS entry luxury sedan, the 2006 DeVille is renamed the DTS.

DTS may sound familiar. It was the name of one of the trim levels of the DeVille in the 2005 model year.

Starting manufacturers suggested retail price, including destination charge, for the 2006 DTS is \$41,990. This is \$4,850 less than the base 2005 model and makes the base DTS less pricey than many full-size, luxury sedan competitors.

For example, the 2006 Lincoln Town Car has a starting MSRP, including destination charge of \$42,875 and the 2006 Lexus LS 430 starts at \$51,175.

The new styling on this Cadillac will attract attention during the test drive, with even drivers in style-conscious Los Angeles staring and looking the car over. The front now has a look similar to the edgy style of Cadillac's CTS and Escalade, though its not quite as sharp.

The DTS rear is a long, streamlined trunk lid that's reminiscent of the back of a Cadillac Eldorado. Overall, the look is definitely contemporary.

Unlike the major competitors, Cadillac's big car remains front-wheel drive, even as new rear-wheel-drive sedans such as Chrysler's 300C have become strong sellers. Some drivers prefer rear-wheel drive for its predictable, sporty character and feel it brings in large-sized cars.

But Cadillac DTS continues to offer the cushioned, quiet ride that buyers in this segment seek. Even the test DTS with performance package and new 18-inch wheels, the car sort of bobbed up and down over sizable highway expansion cracks, but I was never fazed. The DTS seemed to absorb much of the impact from potholes, too, and there was no roughness conveyed to passengers.

Long straight stretches of road were delightful, because the 4,000-pound DTS sometimes seemed to skim the road surface lightly, rather than heave itself along.

But in mountain twisties, I readjusted the back-and-forth weight transfer going on as this more than 4,000-pound auto took a left-hand curve, then a right-hand curve. The car didn't seem to be particularly performance-oriented, as they aged easily in these maneuvers.

Front suspension is an independent MacPherson strut design with a stabilizer bar, while rear uses an independent coil-over design and stabilizer bar. The ride is quiet. Even with trailers driving nearby on a

freeway, I could talk in conversational tones to passengers. I didn't notice much road noise, even with the larger tires, and wind noise seemed mild.

Cadillac retains the two versions of Northstar V8 for this car, and power has been subtly tuned. The base, 4.6-liter, double overhead cam engine generates 275 horsepower at a lower, 5,200 rpm now, rather than the 5,600 rpm of last year. Torque is a healthy 292 foot-pounds at 4,400 rpm for noticeably quick get up and go.

But the uplevel V8 that was in the test DTS with performance package has more horsepower — 291. Peak torque is 286 foot-pounds at 4,400 rpm and came on smartly — and always smoothly. The engine sounds had a satisfying, big-engine quality to them but didn't deter from the comfortable, luxurious ride.

Note the DTS powertrains compare with the 239 horses in the Lincoln Town Car with 4.6-liter V8. The Town Car's torque peaks at 287 foot-pounds at 4,100 rpm. Meantime, the Lexus LS 430s 290-horsepower, 4.3-liter V8 provides 320 foot-pounds of torque at a low, 3,400 rpm.

Fuel economy isn't great in this big-sedan segment, and the DTS is estimated to carry a rating of 17 miles a gallon in city driving and 27 mpg on the highway. This is a bit less than the 18/25 mpg of the LS 430.

I wish the DTS came with something other than its four-speed automatic transmission. It dates back to the early 1990s, and while it has been shown to be durable, it doesn't include a shift-it-yourself manumatic feature, much less a higher number of gears that could improve fuel economy and responsiveness. The Lexus, for example, has a six-speed automatic. The long-running Town Car retains its four speed.

The DTS back seat is a highlight. There's good room for three adults to sit back there without them having to squeeze tightly against each other. The middle passenger, however, has a slight hump to contend with in the middle of the rear floor and also doesn't have a height adjustable head restraint.

Dimensions for the new DTS are pretty close to that of the 2005 DeVille. Overall length, for example, has grown just 0.6 inch. And while the DTS is nearly an inch taller than its predecessor, front-seat headroom remains the same and back-seat headroom is reduced 0.3 inch.

Cadillac officials said they provided about an inch greater track for the front seats to go forward and back, but measured back-seat legroom is 41.6 inches now compared with 43.2 inches in the 2005 car.

The DTS trunk has 18.8 cubic feet of cargo room, which is less than the 21 cubic feet in the Town Car.

Night Vision, an option that helped drivers see obstacles at night and in foggy conditions, is no longer offered. Officials said few consumers — only 5 percent or so — bought it. But standard DTS safety equipment includes antilock brakes, stability control, six airbags and improved structural reinforcements.

Some safety equipment isn't available, however. For example, an automatic brake drying system that BMW is adding to its sedans to help ensure good brake performance in



THE 2006 CADILLAC DTS is restyled, inside and out, for a more modern, upscale look, has new, more ergonomic seats and updated suspension tuning and adds 18-inch factory wheels for first time.

wet weather isn't available on the DTS. Neither is an automatic pre-collision feature that offers by Mercedes and Lexus that helps prepare passengers and the vehicle for impact during an impending crash.

Indeed, the DTS arrives in showrooms without a factory-in-

stalled rear entertainment system. Officials said they're still studying their choices for this feature.

Cadillac officials expect that early buyers of the DTS will be "Cadillac loyalists" who already like the brand and have been previous Cadillac owners.

Most are expected to be married.

But officials also look for younger buyers to be attracted to the new styling. This will help reduce the average buyer age from the mid to high 60s that has been characteristic of the former DeVille, they said.

There have been no safety recalls of the new DTS. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration also has not yet reported crash test results on the car.

Because the vehicle is new, Consumer Reports does not provide a reliability rating.

"I don't think so. GM derives small revenue from licensing the name, but the real value comes from brand contact," Schumacker said.

"The Cadillac image has undergone a huge change during the last few years, and we need to communicate the change. Bikes give us an opportunity to reach people who may not have been paying attention or who may have grown unaware of the brand," he said.

And to ensure the correct image, Schumacker said: "Kent agreed to take it slow and not overproduce. Our concern was producing too many and then having the bikes discounted, essentially the same issue when you produce too many cars and need incentives or discounts to sell them, which has a negative impact on the brand."

At first glance, the bikes seem aimed at doing what introduction of the CTS sedan did in 2002: attract younger buyers into Cadillac showrooms and reduce the average buyer age.

Not necessarily so, Schumacker says. "Lance Armstrong's winning his seventh Tour de France had universal appeal. These bikes aren't just for the younger, hipper consumers, but for people of all ages."

"The people who buy premium bikes are the ones who buy premium vehicles. The bikes give us a chance to have contact with them, and the more contacts, the more chances to break through preconceptions of what they think they know about Cadillac," said Schumacker.

Like it's the place to buy a bike,

Disc brakes; eight speeds; two-legged drive

BY JIM MATEJA
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Buying a car or sport-utility vehicle at the price employees pay is an attraction, how about an even better offer?

Something like buy one Cadillac and get one free!

That would be up to our dealers, but with that offer, said Doug Schumacker, accessories manager for Cadillac.

Before you rush down to your local Caddy store, it's not buy one, get another free. It's more like one sedan, SUV or truck and a bicycle free.

Dealers can make such an offer thanks to a licensing agreement between the automaker and Kent International Inc., to produce premium Cadillac bikes — the All Road, All Mountain, Adventure and Road.

By premium, Schumacker said, the bikes are "fully assembled with carbon fiber frames, disc brakes, eight speeds and handle bars that you can adjust up and down as well as fore and aft."

They are sold through bike stores as well as Caddy dealerships at prices ranging from \$500 to \$1,900. Automakers keep looking for new ways to promote a sale, and

this is one of them. Dealers can sell the bikes or use them as an incentive or gift.

"The bikes are one more tool in the dealer's toolbox," Schumacker said. "They can be used in lieu of a traditional incentive, or dealers can toss in a bike to help make a sale or give them away to customers as a thank you present for buying a Cadillac."

It also gives dealers the opportunity to sell accessories, such as bike racks, Schumacker said.

Cadillac is offering the bikes to General Motors employees at a 25 percent discount through 50 deal-

ers nationwide now and an expected 300 by year's end. But that discount doesn't extend to consumers.

Unlike the employee-pricing-to-all offer on its four-wheeled vehicles, the discount on bikes doesn't expire Monday, Schumacker said.


And, no, GM Chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner hasn't purchased a Cadillac bike, even at 25 percent off.

"Rick really doesn't have the time for a bike right now," Schumacker said, adding that Cadillac didn't lend its name to Kent bikes to help Wagoner return GM to profitability.

HOME AND BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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HOUSESITTING SERVICES

WALNUT CREEK couple will house sit Nov. & Dec. 925-935-9093

Schools & Instruction

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Where is

dream home?

Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Alameda Journal

Friday, September 14, 2001

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B7]

Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B8]

Now is the time to prepare
for the inevitable 'Big One'

Victorian Architecture at its finest

A Victorian or typical wood building that sits on its foundation can be a real headache. A building that burns to the ground can't. Suburban Outdoors, a well-respected Alameda general contractor and owner of Suburban Construction, specializing in foundation work.

The most common residential construction failure will be an earthquake. A licensed contractor of the Alameda Journal and a home inspector for Inspection Pros.

Earthquakes happen in California. They will happen again in 1908. San Francisco experienced an earthquake followed by numerous fires that caused more damage than the quake itself. Wood-frame buildings and unreinforced chimneys combined to make the 'Big One' expensive and deadly.

Both Quilley and Broccoli were raised and went to school here. They have worked in numerous reinforced masonry chimney. Turn being bricks that weigh six pounds each can cause significant damage to property and people in an earthquake. noted Paul Broccoli, a licensed contractor of the Alameda Journal and a home inspector for Inspection Pros.

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ROSEMARY MCRALLY

Alamedans. They are concerned about preserving the Victorians and other older homes. With their construction knowledge and structural repair skills, they have a particular interest in preparing for the 'Big One' the inevitable fire after an earthquake and preventing damage and injuries.

A recent discussion with them revolved around their thoughts about Alameda's history as a city and its future. Quilley estimates there are probably 1,000 Victorian structures here built before 1900 and shortly after. They were built using the same design principles and materials used in the San Francisco Victorians that structurally failed or burned to the ground. It is about preserving the Victorians and other older homes. With their construction knowledge and structural repair skills, they have a particular interest in preparing for the 'Big One' the inevitable fire after an earthquake and preventing damage and injuries.

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THE BERKELEY VOICE • THE JOURNAL • THE MONTCLARION
THE PIEDMONT • ALAMEDA JOURNAL

What do

need to be haute?

Shopping Plus

ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

Tote cuisine: beyond the bologna sandwich

BY MARIA GALLAGHER

The leaves haven't begun to change, but I've already seen one cute sign that autumn is almost at our doorstep.

At my neighborhood supermarket, an enormous display bin filled last month with peach

balls — is now piled high with brown lunch bags. (Oh to a pack-

There's a lot of school and office lunches waiting to be made.

With take-out and delivered food so readily available, you might think that grown-ups have

stopped carrying lunches to work. But the January 2001 issue of

American Demographics cited a December survey indicating that

20 percent of office workers bring a lunch from home every day and that 45 percent bring a home-

packed lunch at least once a week.

Their reasons vary. Some want to work through lunch. Some run errands and wolf down a sandwich

afterward. Others are lowering doctor-prescribed diets or

keeping kosher or counting calories or working the night shift.

Roseanne Decker, a Culver City resident, associates with

her lunch bag with a sense of

control. "I know what I'm eating

and when I eat it," she says. "I

don't have to worry about

what I'm eating or when I'm

eating it. I know what I'm

What's in her lunch bag?

Fresh fruit, oranges for snacking, and perhaps a sandwich of re-

duced-fat turkey on light bread or homemade tuna salad with

marinara sauce or cottage cheese with fruit or yogurt with fruit. She

drinks spring water from a water cooler, adding a up with lemon

and artificial sweetener.

Donna Scott, another West-

Washers member who works in the same department as Decker,

typically brings four portions of fresh fruit to work each day, some

with small portions of dinner left-overs, such as meat, loaf

beans, or macaroni and cheese.

"At my desk right now, I have

pretzels, I have low-fat rice cakes,

potatoes, I have low-fat rice cakes,

potatoes, I have low-fat rice cakes,

potatoes, I have low-fat rice cakes,

potatoes, I have low-fat rice cakes,

potatoes, I have low-fat rice cakes,

potatoes, I have low-fat rice cakes,



BROWN BAG LUNCHES don't have to be limited to peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. With some imagination, you can enjoy a salad, some grapes and sparkling water. Don't forget the utensils, and use real napkins, please.

From haute cuisine to haute couture, Shopping Plus every Friday.

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THE PIEDMONTER • ALAMEDA JOURNAL

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\$200 415-845-3641
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CHEVROLET 1989 Cam-
aro, 925-639-2094
FORD 1967 Pickup,
needs motor, \$600 bo,
510-222-0578
HONDA 1988 Accord,
runs od, needs carb,
\$1200/bo 510-253-3075
MAZDA 1985 RX-7 SE,
75k work, as is, bodi-
ed, \$600 925-249-5138
SATURN 2000 SL2,
\$1500/bo 925-799-3020

Sport Water Craft

1992 GTX SEADOO,
3 seater, low hours,
Shoreland's trailer,
\$1800, SOLD
1991 KAWASAKI X-2
Stage 2 & 440, Boat
\$1200, 925-699-0258
1986 KAWASAKI 550
stand up jet ski, mods
\$1000/bo 925-337-2630
YAMAHA 2002 FX140, 3
pass., 4 stroke eng.,
Trlr, auto new,
\$7000 925-778-7936

Boats

18' ADVANTAGE SKI
Spt. Berk. jet, like new
\$8000 510-915-2084
ALUMINUM, 8', 1 yr old,
\$250/obo 925-477-1823
91 BAYLINER 19', 90HP
OB, \$4000 925-779-1024

Boats

2004 Bayliner 18' open
bow, like new, 25 hrs.,
\$0.500, 925-437-4179
2002 Bayliner Capri
215, 5.7L, 21', fully
loaded, like new, 55 hr
\$17,500, 925-960-1723
1994 Bayliner 24',
HD/Top, cruiser, trlr,
\$16000 925-686-3625
1993 Bayliner Trophy
150HP, OB, 20', 3"
open bow, VHF, GPS,
\$6900 707-746-1652
BAYLINER '92, 19' clas-
sic, 3.0 Merc. cruiser
IO \$4760 925-754-5791
91 BAYLINER 22', all
new, \$10K in receipts,
\$13,900, 92 low hrs, Xtr
2100s, 92 low hrs, Xtr
10, Needs TLR, \$4K/
bo Appt. 925-513-0874

27' BAYLINER Clera w/
trlr & cust. van, clean
\$2500/obo 925-229-2572
BOATS, mtrs & trlrs,
All run grt. Must sell
 ASAP. 925-684-3434
1999 CHAPARRAL 1830
SL, Ed. V6, tandem
1200s, 92 low hrs, Xtr
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blue shell \$350/obo
925-672-6575

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\$800/obo 925-784-0258

WEEKENDER Camper
\$6500 707-374-3514

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1971 19' O/Berglass,
tr hull, w/trlr, as is
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Looks, Hull Must Sell
\$8900, 925-284-7401

LUND 1984 5.5 Tye &
Trlr, 115hp Evin. live
well, troll mtr., depth
finder, \$9K 925-513-2903

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Bow Ski, great cond,
\$7200/bo 925-260-2861

OUTBOARD MTR. Merc.
15H, 4 stroke, 8 hrs,
\$1900 925-679-0935

REINELL 2003 FNS 204,
FishySKI, 20' 98hrs,
trolling mtr., CD w/
amp & sub, Bimot
top, tint, V8 FFI, tan-
dem axle trlr, covr.
Ready for summer,
\$2000 obo **SOLD**

'02 REINELL 20' V8
w/tower & extras,
\$18.5K, 707-746-7315

SEA SWIRL Cutty 2000
2013, 4K **SOLD**

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Bow Immac/beaut
\$11,400 925-552-9245

SEARAY '85 20' Cutty
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'79 SEARAY Sedan 25'
New mtr/outdrive
w/trlr. Loaded, Must
See \$24K 925-625-5274

16' SEASWIRL Open
bow, 115 HP, Yamaha
2 stroke, Grt cond,
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CHALLENGER '95, 25ft,
Xint \$20K 925-828-6064

Boats

1999 SKI SANGER DLX
O/B, Immac. cond, 18
total hrs, Alarm,
\$23,500, 925-855-0344
1995 SKI SANGER, DXII
20' Immac, low hrs,
\$17,500, 925-778-6802
NEW WARRIOR 7'10M
Boats, hammerski.com
(707) 763-7066
19' '92 WA Sea Pro, 30
hrs, extras, 3.0 Volvo
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WELLCRAFT 1994 18'
Open bow, W/trailer,
\$2595/bo 925-513-1292
YAMAHA Waverunners
95 (pair) VXR650
matching sets, chl
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many accs, incl.
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Berk Jet, Runs Grt.
Looks, Hull Must Sell
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Trlr, 115hp Evin. live
well, troll mtr., depth
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15H, 4 stroke, 8 hrs,
\$1900 925-679-0935

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trolling mtr., CD w/
amp & sub, Bimot
top, tint, V8 FFI, tan-
dem axle trlr, covr.
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SEARAY '85 20' Cutty
V6 \$5500, 925-686-5756

'79 SEARAY Sedan 25'
New mtr/outdrive
w/trlr. Loaded, Must
See \$24K 925-625-5274

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bow, 115 HP, Yamaha
2 stroke, Grt cond,
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van conv, 6k mi, AC,
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Micro, low pkg, \$15K
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ITASCA Winniebag
Class A, '93, 23', 50.4K
Easy to park, 5195
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w/slideout, sleeps 5-
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'80'S STYLE TENT TRLR,
100 Anniv. Edt, silver
510-816-3949
2001 TAHOE Lite 21',
Showroom cond, \$9500
925-913-8510
1998 5TH wheel deluxe
w/slideout, qt, bed,
100 Anniv. Edt, silver
extras, 925-625-1384
HARLEY 2005 Dyna,
Extras, wtr, \$15,200
obo 925-699-3815
HARLEY 2005 Rd. King
Cust, 1400 mi., many
extras, 925-625-1384
HARLEY 2003 U.I.R.
Classic Electra-Glide,
100 Anniv. Edt, silver
& black, loaded, show-
room quality, \$19,500
925-766-0181
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King, 55k in extras, 18k
mi, Like new!
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Softail Classic, Warr.
extras, 11k, Like new!
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1200s, Very low mi.,
like new, Must sell
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HARLEY 1999 BUELL,
\$3700, 925-240-1153
HARLEY 1998 Fatboy,
3650 mi., customized
chrome & paint, extra
\$12.5K, 925-634-7336
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w/hydraulic levers,
many extras, 1996
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both 707-747-0930

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Slide Out, 32', air
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rear bed A/C loaded
\$6900 925-964-7169

NOMAD 1984 28'
fully loaded, 51ps, &
\$6400, **SOLD**

1980 Nomad, 15', self-
contain, gd cond, inv
out \$2350 **SOLD**

30' ROAD Ranger made
by Kit 2001, Bought
new 03 used 12K
Like brand new, Slide
\$11,500, 925-673-9878

ROCKFORD 1993 24ft
loaded, slip, 6, grt cond
\$6K obo **SOLD**

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w/slideout, sleeps 5-
6, fully loaded, sell
\$14,500, 925-516-4201

'80'S STYLE TENT TRLR,
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510-816-3949

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3650 mi., customized
chrome & paint, extra
\$12.5K, 925-634-7336

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10K mi. check up com-
SEE \$20K 925-687-1866

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Mercedes 2004 C320 Bose, Lthr, Alloy, 4-door, 25,995 #60728

Mercedes 2003 SL500 silver, 20,000 mi, 26.5k mi, mint cond, spk, leather, 25,995 #60728

Mercedes 2003 CLK350 3.5L, 20,000 mi, 26.5k mi, mint cond, spk, leather, 25,995 #60728

Mercedes 2002 CLK430 Cab b/w, ash, 41k mi, lease return, #14943 \$39,995

Mercedes 2002 S500 sl/bk, 25k mi, spk pkg, like new, #276579 \$52,995

Mercedes 2002 SL600 6000, 25k mi, spk pkg, lk nw, #203351 \$49,995

Mercedes 2001 E320 Wagon, 1-Passenger, Desert Silver, 13,000 Low Miles, Reduced to \$29,995 #790557

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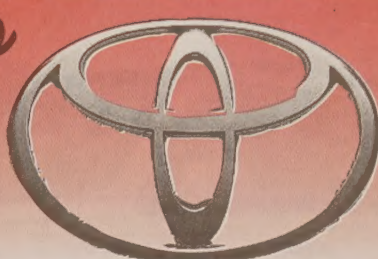
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